

The Trinity Tripod

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SGA Signs One-Year Cable Contract

JAMES KUKSTIS
NEWS EDITOR

Students will receive Comcast cable service on-campus for the 2008-2009 school year. Trinity College has signed a one-year contract with Comcast at the permission of the Student Government Association (SGA), despite the fact that the increase in cost for service is greater than expected or desired.

The SGA has given permission to the school to agree to a one-year contract with the provider, given that the SGA did not pay for more than an 11 percent increase. However, the new contract with Comcast has a 23 percent increase, from \$9.08 per outlet to \$11.25 per outlet. The school has 1,545 outlets, and the contract is valid for 12 months. The total cost will rise from \$168,343.20 to \$208,575.00, an increase of \$40,231.80. The Student Activities Fund (SAF) will pay \$186,860.95 to Comcast, which would be the rate with an 11 percent increase. The College has agreed to pay the remaining \$21,715.05, though they have yet to determine where this money will come from.

"This is a victory for everybody that was made possible because of the close working relationship between the SGA and the Administration," said SGA President Andrew Pedro '08. Controversy brewed among the SGA Senate when determining if they should continue to pay for cable out of the SAF. The Senate passed a resolution agreeing to seek a one-year contract to be funded by the SAF. During that year, they hope to work with the administration in order to transfer the responsibility out of the funds set aside solely for student activities.

"We were very concerned that nearly one third of the [SAF] goes to pay for a service that should be, at the very least, partially funded by the school, so we need to reevaluate our current system," said Pedro. "In addition, members of the Administration believe that within a year there will likely be additional companies willing to compete for our business." Signing a one-year contract and spending a year weighing options was deemed the most practical and beneficial course of action.

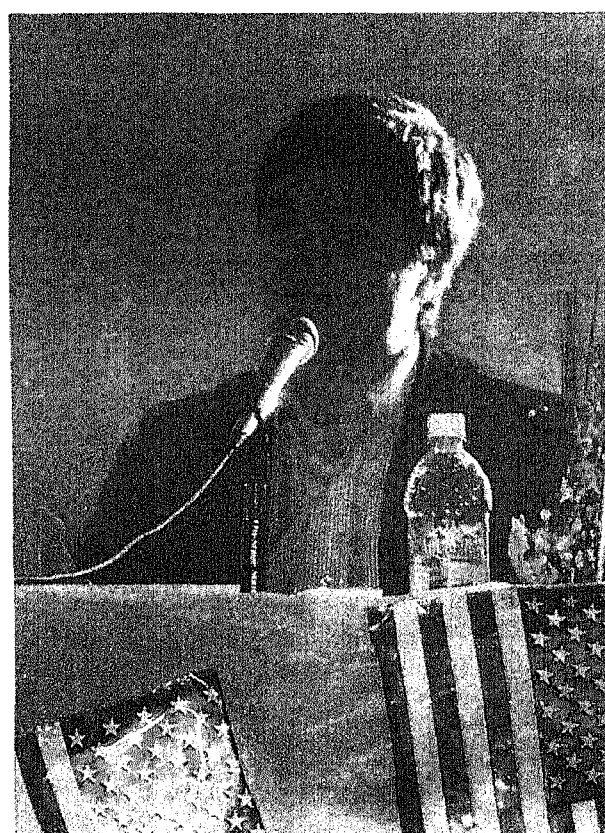
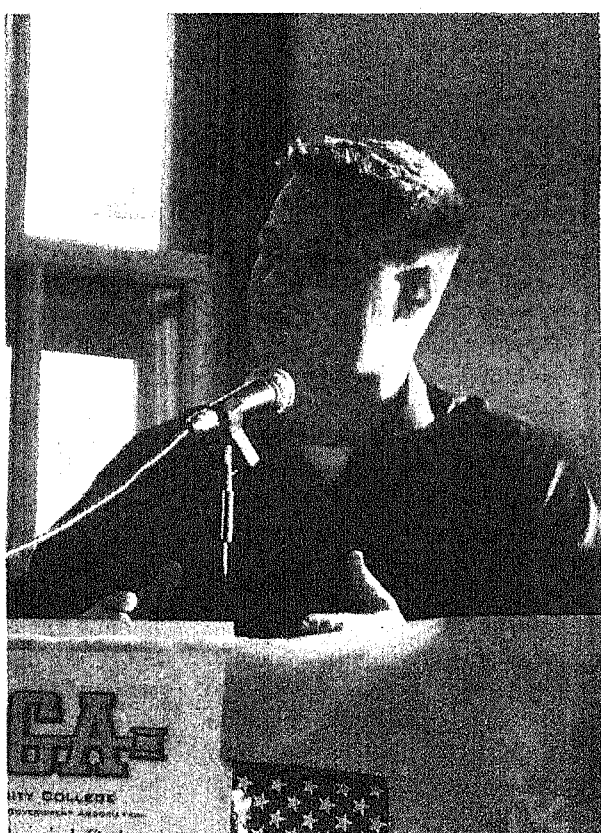
"It is important to note that we're now beginning the negotiation process with the Administration to determine how cable will be funded for the 2009-2010 academic year and that [it] should be settled by next year's SGA in the fall of '08," Pedro said.

The SGA Senate made it clear that in the resolution seeking a one-year contract, they do not consider cable to be a student activity, and thus, should not be funded by the SAF. With this one-year contract in place, the SGA will be able to continue their working relationship with the school to plan for the future.

SGA Presidential Candidates Vie for Position

KIRSCHBAUM VERSUS KIMBALL-STANLEY

By JAMES KUKSTIS • NEWS EDITOR



Jordyn Sims

Presidential hopeful Kirschbaum, left, debates with opponent, Kimball-Stanley, right. Both are currently Senators for the Class of 2009.

On Monday evening the Student Government Association (SGA) held debates between the candidates for President, Nathan Kirschbaum '09 and David Kimball-Stanley '09 and Executive Vice President (VP), Stephen "Randy" Gretz '09 and Bryce Blum '10. The candidates set themselves apart from each other on a number of issues, particularly the candidates for President, whose conversation dominated the majority of the afternoon's event. Adjunct Professor of Public Policy Ned Cabot moderated the debate.

The debate between the VP candidates opened the evening. Gretz, in his opening statement, said that he enjoyed the debates the SGA had held during their Senate meetings, and enjoyed seeing the changes that the SGA has made on campus. Blum said that he has enjoyed serving on the committees he has served on, and prided himself on the better communication between the SGA and the student body.

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Online

View video of the SGA Presidential Debate between Kirschbaum and Kimball-Stanley.

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Faculty Divided Over Governance Proposal

LIZZIE BROWN
MANAGING EDITOR

The Faculty Conference at Trinity College has proposed a Revision of Faculty Governance which will transfer responsibility from the Faculty to the Administration through the consolidation and dissolution of existing Faculty Committees. The Revision of Faculty Governance was originally pursued by the Faculty Conference at the request of Dean of Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs Rena Fraden last year. Currently a Draft Plan, the Revision of Faculty Governance has yet to be finalized.

According to member of the Faculty Conference,

George and Martha Faculty, how we can best Kellner Chair in South intervene in College

Asian History and Professor of International Studies Dr. Vijaya Prasad, "[The Faculty Conference] is responding to a logistical problem; there are too few faculty running for standing committees." He concluded, "I think the strength of the proposal is in the

attempt to see how best to focus the energy of the

Faculty, how we can best intervene in College

"[The Revision of Faculty Governance Draft Plan] centralizes power in the Dean of Faculty's Office and contributes to the balkanization and narrow disciplinary professionalism of the Faculty by discouraging wide-spread Faculty involvement in the broader operation of the College."

"Concerned Faculty"

on Committees, whose members were struggling,

and failing, to scare up sufficient qualified candidates for many positions [...] Many eligible faculty refused to run, or ran but then withdrew when elected."

Some members of the Faculty disagree with the way in which the Revision of Faculty Governance will redistribute power within the College. In an e-mail addressed to Faculty Secretary, Professor of History Gary Reger, 27 members of the Faculty who were credited as "Concerned Faculty" opposed either all or some of the Revision of Faculty Governance Draft Plan: "It centralizes power in the Dean of Faculty's Office

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The Trinity Tripod

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All letters are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the Tripod. The editors of the Tripod reserve the right to edit all letters for clarity and/or brevity.

Letters may be submitted via Campus Mail Box 702582 or via e-mail at tripod@trincoll.edu.

Visit the Tripod table every Tuesday at 5 p.m. in the rear of Mather Dining Hall (near the stage).

GOT A SCOOP?

Representatives from every section of the Tripod will be available to discuss article ideas, event info, and news tips with you. Faculty and staff welcome.

Tripod Editorial

One of our staff members learned something interesting last week from a guest speaker she had in one of her classes: Trinity's Social Sciences Data Coordinator at the library, Rachael Barlow. She talked about her dissertation in which she examines how librarians and how library buildings co-construct librarians' professional identities. She mentioned the fact that, at Trinity, the librarians absolutely hate the Grand

Staircase, because it blocks the view between the Reference desk and the Circulation desk. This is apparently an important connection in libraries.

Why did this error in planning occur, you ask? Well, no one from the library was on the committee in charge of making these decisions. Seems pretty foolish, doesn't it? Well, that's typical Trinity for you, no? Alas, this is a major problem that afflicts the College. Those at the

top don't listen to the little guys. Clearly, student, faculty and staff opinions are not important. Without us and our input, the College will continue to be doomed to its unfortunate fate.

Listen to us, Trinity. We care about a lot of things – sustainability, campus safety, climate issues. Pay attention, or you will continue to make mistakes even more egregious than misplacing a staircase.

Letters to the Editor

Former Trinity Student Discusses Rape on Campus

As an alumna of Trinity College, I was dismayed to read that a student was sexually assaulted on campus last week. Having been a victim of rape myself while at Trinity, I am heartbroken. I extend my condolences to the victim and hope that she and her loved ones receive the counseling and support they will require now and in the future.

After having read the article in *The Trinity Tripod*, I am pleased that it appears the College has added to and improved their response to sexual assaults on campus. What I find troubling is that apparently some members of the student body believe that only strangers from the Hartford community pose a threat. Admittedly, Trinity students and staff have always had to navigate the surrounding community of Hartford with caution and there has been a long history of the crime endemic to the city spilling onto the campus.

Sexual assault at Trinity does happen regularly, it just doesn't make the papers unless the perpetrator is an outsider. I agree wholeheartedly with [Director of the Women and Gender Resource Action Center Laura] Lockwood that "pals" need to be held accountable. Sexual assault by strangers on campus is rare. I shared a class with the man who raped me. He was the fraternity brother of an old boyfriend. He wasn't anyone I would have run from had I seen him at night along Vernon Street. He was a rapist all the same.

A young woman was quoted by the Tripod as saying she "couldn't believe that this took place at Trinity." Another purported that it was "the first time [she had] been on campus when a sexual assault happened." The school needs to ensure that the students are actually aware of how many sexual assaults are reported each year. Students are allowed to file claims with the College even if they are not prepared to press charges. The College is bound by law to report these annually to the government.

I propose that the College take one step further in an effort to make the campus safer: the Tripod should be allowed to publish the locations of the reported sexual assaults. While students

should always be cognizant of their surroundings, they should not be lulled into a false sense of security thinking they are always safe amongst their peers. In the sense that it could potentially impact the membership and alumni support of both on and off-campus organizations, it would help to put the onus on those organizations to police their own houses, thereby directly helping the College with their goal to ensure the safety of the students. If the young woman who was victimized last week could summon the courage to speak out, than certainly the College's administrators can readily admit, in a voice loud enough for everyone to hear, that sex crimes do happen on campus and they are most often committed by members of the student body. They can demonstrate their commitment to keeping members of the student body safe by fully disclosing those locations, other than Vernon Street, that aren't safe.

Signed,
V. G. Modell '02

Alum Praises Last Issue of The Trinity Tripod

The April 1 issue of *The Trinity Tripod* is proof, if anyone doubted, that profound thinking and excellent writing are alive and well at Trinity. Hoping not to leave anyone out, the Carver / Calder interview was superb for its agile style and provocative content, as were Ibrahim Diallo on race; Fatima Jafri on feminism, and also on Israel; along with the impressive statement by Hillel students regarding the defacement / removal of their posters; not to mention Noah Simcoff's humorous take on dining options and the defunct Zona Mexicana; Courtney Cregan's coverage of the Black Women's Speakers event; and Alessandra Siraco's review of Provincetown Follies. Further, the coverage of the recent campus sexual assault was worthy of any good local newspaper. As an alumnus who has frequently bemoaned the persistence of the "Camp Trin Trin" myth of anti-intellectual class privilege, well, [last week's Tripod was] a breath of fresh air and yet another reason for occasionally dispirited alumni to keep on

giving, so long as [it] was not an April Fool's joke.

Signed,
Ty Geltmaker '74

Student Encourages Seniors To Sign Graduation Pledge

During our years at Trinity College, we have been educated not just to complete our majors, but also to become more global, socially conscious citizens. By signing the Graduation Pledge of Social and Environmental Responsibility, it is a tangible way of committing yourself to improving the world through the creation of a just and peaceful society. The Graduation Pledge is a commitment graduating seniors take to be socially responsible in their future endeavors or careers. If Trinity can add a few hundred signers to the Pledge, and if even a small percentage of the pledge-signers dedicate themselves to ensuring positive, constructive consequences, then humanity, and the systems that support life on our earth, may be delighted with lasting benefits. Define what being socially responsible means to you, and commit yourself to the actions you can take to make a better world. The Graduation Pledge is not expecting you to work for a non-profit or volunteer at your local food bank every week; it is merely asking you to take a look around your work environment after graduation. In this new career you will be entering, you can make a difference even if the only change you can make is by drinking fair trade coffee, or recycling. Make an attainable goal for yourself to improve the quality of life on our planet.

The Graduation Pledge has been available for seniors to sign since 2001. The Graduation Pledge book will be available for seniors to sign during the Senior Salute on April 9. The Pledge is as follows:

"I _____ pledge to explore and take into account the social and environmental consequences of any job I consider and will try to improve these aspects of any organizations for which I work."

By joining the Pledge you can help make change.

Signed,
Megan Borgelt '08

Send a Letter to the Editor: e-mail tripod@trincoll.edu or submit at www.trinitytripod.com.

OPINIONS

The Trinity Tripod

SGA President Pedro Endorses Kirschbaum

ANDREW PEDRO
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR



On Thursday, Apr. 10, the students of Trinity College will vote in the Spring Elections for the Student Government Association (SGA). We're in the midst of intense campaigning and, quite frankly, it is a significant election. Regardless of whether or not you agree with my opinion, it is crucial that every student vote on Thursday.

I have chosen to endorse Nathan Kirschbaum '09 for President of the SGA for many reasons, but one in particular really stands out for me.

In response to student concerns about safety on campus,

the SGA set up a meeting on Wednesday, Apr. 2, with the administration, faculty, staff and student body, as well as Campus Safety. We left the room after the meeting with a long list of concerns and suggestions, and the SGA needed to act quickly. On Thursday, Apr. 3, I e-mailed the entire SGA and notified everyone that I was putting together an informal meeting to draft a proposal to improve safety at Trinity.

So, we met at 4 p.m. in the "War Room" (our Conference Room in the basement of Jones Dormitory), on a beautiful Saturday afternoon. Kirschbaum had been campaigning and meeting with organizations all over campus less than a week before the election, and he was the last person I expected to show up.

see KIRSCHBAUM on page 5

Student Finds Fraternity's Playboy Party Disturbing

LUCY SCHIFFMAN
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR



When I first heard about a Playboy-themed party hosted annually by a fraternity, I was a little shocked. Doesn't anyone think that this seems backwards and anti-feminist? It called for the guys to dress like pimps and the girls to dress as scantily as possible, short of arriving naked. Upon arriving, I immediately needed to take off my coat as I was inundated by the humidity from the body heat of the partygoers. There were drunken, shirtless male attendees wearing bow ties or wearing bathrobes and chewing on cigars. Not surprising. What was surprising, however, were the flocks of girls; my jaw dropped. There were people wearing outfits that consisted of only a bra, underwear, and perhaps a garter belt. Seriously?

My attitude toward fraternities at Trinity has always been a little derisive and disdainful. They, in essence, are establishments that create an artificial environment in which harmful, reckless, and downright sinful behavior is normalized. I would never, in any other environment, feel that it is appropriate to elbow through a crowd, spilling beer everywhere, only to engage in dancing that so closely resembles sex that it is absurd and then make-out with someone on the dance floor in front of everyone, feeling no embarrassment.

However, maybe this Playboy-themed party is actually a good thing. People really put it out there. It is about sex. It is all about sex. Does this bother you? Here, chug this beer, it dulls the sensation of disgust.

I'm not sure why this particular party bothered me more than others like GI Joes and Barbie hos, CEOs and Secretary Hos – notice a pattern? I know, it's really easy to rhyme things with "ho," but it's insulting. Yet, the supposedly bright young girls that attend Trinity continue to buy into these parties, perpetuating them. It has gotten so out of control; I recall one night when my roommate and I were dancing in the basement of a certain frat, and a brother approached us and yelled, "Why are you girls dancing so far apart? Get closer!" In an attempt to be sarcastic, I enthusiastically replied, "Wooo! I love being misogynized!" to which he replied, "Yeah! That's what I'm talking about!" I'm sorry, but what did I do to be so unapologetically objectified?

Perhaps we are asking for it. Can we blame these boys for treating us as if the Feminist Movement never took place when we so willingly don bras, panties, and bunny ears and head out into the night to purposely get drunk and make some bad decisions? I don't know, but I personally refuse to encourage this absurdity. But, hey, I still go to fraternities and occasionally make some bad decisions, so maybe I'm not really one to talk. However, I always make it out wearing at least a shirt.

SGA VP Endorses Kimball-Stanley

BRITTANY ENGLISH
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR



This year, two very strong candidates are vying to be elected as President of the Student Government Association (SGA). Both David Kimball-Stanley '09 and Nathan Kirschbaum '09 have been active and important members of the SGA, and both are more than qualified to serve as President. While I am certain that the SGA will have a strong leader that will continue the work that has been done over the course of this year, I strongly encourage you to support Kimball-Stanley's candidacy.

I have served on the SGA since my freshman year and have witnessed the ups and downs of the organization, due in large part to the role of the President. During my time on the SGA, I have seen how the President can make material changes for the student body, but also (and more importantly) how the President can stand up to the Administration and make the will of the students known. Seeing the work that Kimball-Stanley has done on the SGA since his freshman year, I am certain that he will not only work to improve the day-to-day lives of students on campus, but will also tackle the bigger issues in order to strengthen our community.

Kimball-Stanley is right when he asserts that he has been a leader on important issues within the SGA. Since his freshmen year, he has pushed the SGA to tackle issues that do not have simple solutions but are essential to bettering student life and Trinity. Through the leadership of Kimball-Stanley, Andrew Pedro '08, and Kat West '07, Trinity obtained its first outdoor recycling bins through SGA funding. I know that getting outdoor recycling bins may seem trivial

to some, but Kimball-Stanley understands that changing little things on campus can make a big difference in improving Trinity. After their work, recycling has become a major issue for the SGA, and student recycling has improved dramatically since my freshman year. Although Kimball-Stanley knows how important recycling is, he is also willing to push the Administration to support recycling rather than force the students to pick up the bill.

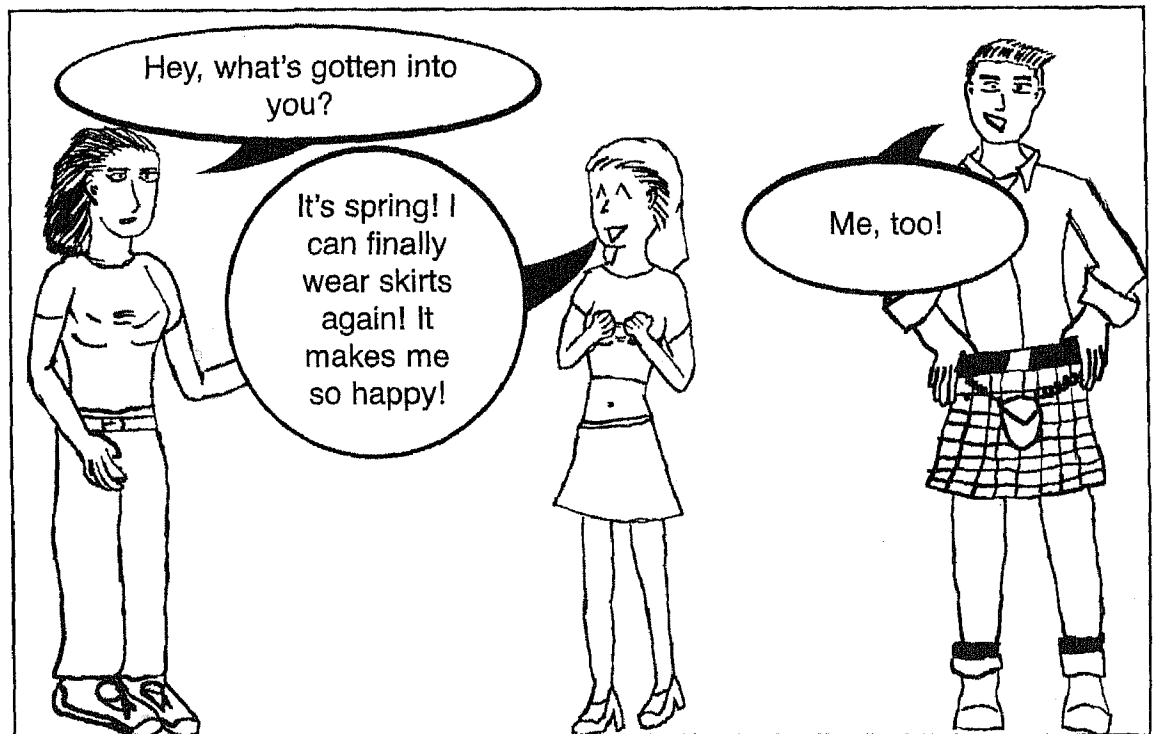
While at Trinity, Kimball-Stanley has witnessed, firsthand, the impact of campus climate issues to the Trinity community. Campus climate issues have become a definitive part of life at Trinity in the past few years, and the SGA needs a president who has witnessed the impact of these issues. Within the SGA, Kimball-Stanley consistently serves as a leader on these issues; when last year's president remained silent, Kimball-Stanley pushed the SGA to address campus climate. Not only will he look to improve the climate on the Trinity campus, he will work to improve our relationship with the greater Hartford community.

It is important for the SGA President to work with the Administration, but we also need a president who will work with students to assume responsibility of important campus issues. For instance, Kimball-Stanley wants to help bring back Safewalks, a program that had students provide other students with walks home to ensure their safety. Kimball-Stanley understands that when students work with one another, they can help the student body as a whole. However, he will still push the Administration to provide the campus safety services we have been promised, like more outdoor surveillance cameras. The concept of involving all students in helping the community is what the SGA needs to tackle big issues in ways that work. I am certain that Kimball-

Stanley will be able to bring students together in order to change the way we think about issues, producing new ideas.

On many of the issues, Kimball-Stanley and Kirschbaum have very similar ideas that will work towards the betterment of Trinity and student life. However, the students need a candidate that deeply understands all of the issues that they face and has been here to see both the ups and downs of the SGA and Trinity. Kimball-Stanley is truly engaged in life at Trinity; he is an active member of the SGA, performs in many productions on campus, lives in the Fred, studied in Paris, and works in the Community Service Office. Through his engagement on campus, he understands the concerns of a wide range of students, allowing him to use his role as President to truly represent the student body to the Administration. As issues arise relating to cuts in academic programs, Study Abroad options, and campus climate issues, Kimball-Stanley will be able to use his experiences to better represent students.

I am confident that next year's SGA will be an organization that students can look towards to initiate change on campus. Yet, I believe that under Kimball-Stanley's leadership, the SGA will begin to wield its power to get the Administration to act on issues important to students. Being President of the SGA is not just about getting shuttles on campus or better food in the dining halls; it is also about advising the Administration on the needs of the students. The SGA can use its influence in new ways that make the Administration responsive, improving life and culture on campus. After personally serving in various capacities on the SGA and including my current position of Executive Vice President, I know that Kimball-Stanley has the experience and ideas to use the presidency to help students and Trinity.



Cartoon by Peter Kempson '10

U.S. Should Not Act as Superpower

JOE TARZI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



There are times when I lament the downfall of the Soviet Union — not because I agreed with its politics or because I have any illusions that it wasn't a state doomed to downfall, but because the Soviet Union served as a perfect counterpoint to the U.S. The idea that the U.S. needs a superpower to oppose it has been mentioned numerous times, even in jest in movies like *Canadian Bacon*. Without an equal, the U.S. has become like the lonely kid with the magnifying glass, burning ants for lack of anything better to do. In short, though we may not recognize our predicament, barely two decades out of the Cold War, we've stagnated.

I am certainly not going to imply that a country cannot

exist without military competition: if that were true, New Zealand would be in a world of trouble. However, I do believe that a superpower cannot exist without competition — we've lost our enemy but we still continue to act as if the world is in a state of cold war, poking our noses anywhere we can while puffing our chest out and asserting our dominance. After more than half a century of hypersensitivity to world events, we've forgotten what our nation was like before World War II — we were essentially a nation of isolationists.

In very little time we transformed from a nation of farmers and cowboys into a world superpower — remember that when U.S. troops were storming the beaches of Normandy there were still men and women alive who remembered and fought in the American Civil War. While present day cowboys and farmers will have you believe that this country was built on hard manual labor, the fact is that it was the doctors, scientists,

bankers, and generals who brought the people of this country out of the muck and into the modern era.

What did this provide us, you ask? It provided us a post-war golden age lasting through the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s. These decades were a time of peace and prosperity. There was fear, sure, but how many veterans tell stories of their buddies killed by the Soviets, or about "Charlie" breaking into someone's living room? In that time period we invented the computer, color TV, and the microwave oven. We sent men to the moon, a feat which seems mundane to people today.

So that is why I miss the Soviet Union — not because they were so great, but because today nearly everything I look at while I type this, at least everything with a computer chip, was shipped here from another country. We've lost the ability to innovate and invent things for our-

see AMERICA on page 6

Vineis Calls for Use of Nuclear Power for Energy

REID VINEIS
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR



America faces a great challenge. For the past 200 years, this land's abundant resources have yielded great wealth. We extracted minerals from our purple mountains' majesty and took sustenance from our amber waves of grain. Now, it appears that our contract with the planet has ended, and we must revisit our energy and consumption policies. The call for battle rings strong from Hollywood to the Hamptons. Yet, the course of action remains unclear. Hysterical activists have hijacked the issue of climate change and are threatening to drive the nation to irrational decisions. For the sake of the planet and our next generations, moderates must guide the country to implement practical, not fantastical, measures.

Most successful ventures involve a common understanding of our challenges, mission, and goals. World War II was not only

fought on the battlefields of Europe, but also in the factories of Detroit and in victory gardens in Kansas. There is no problem that an American people united in purpose can not overcome. However, with climate change, there is no consensus on what actions to implement. The large scale solutions proposed by activists like Al Gore and his penguin army either don't address the scope of the problem, or are so far from what Americans will adopt it is laughable. We will have a more positive effect if we encourage industries that already exist.

Goreans argue that the U.S. needs to reduce its carbon dioxide emissions by 80 percent by 2050. According to The World Bank, a reduction that size would put us on par with the same rate as Uzbekistan, where the current average per capita income is \$2,200 and expected age of death is a ripe old 65, when most Americans are beginning retirement. The presidential candidates have also jumped on the crazy train express. Barack Obama said in television ads that he wants oil companies "to pay a penalty for windfall profits." So, besides discouraging American companies from success, Obama would have consumers pay higher gas costs after companies factor in these penalties. How are we going to have any

tax revenue to invest in alternative fuels when gas is over \$4 a gallon, Obama? Hillary Clinton wants to create a "National Energy Council" within the White House, because apparently the Departments of Energy, Environmental Protection, and Interior do not suffice. These are just some of the myriad of ludicrous plans the left has proposed that are slowing real progress on climate change. Before we go putting water wings on polar bears, let's examine three practical measures that will have a real impact.

First, we need to secure our oil supplies in the short term so going cold turkey from the black stuff doesn't spell bankruptcy. Our inability to control oil prices is hurting citizens' pocketbooks not only at the pump, but now at the pastry shop. Due to the interest in ethanol, there is a shortage of wheat that has shot up prices

50 percent since August. To fix this, first Congress needs to allow offshore drilling to tap vital reserves. International competition threatens to steal our supplies. Before China and

Central American countries drink our milkshake we need to get what is rightfully ours. Second, the U.S. needs to expand its refining capacity. Currently, we lack enough facilities to produce our own gasoline; we import 10 percent of our gas from foreign refineries. And while radicals love the sound bite that oil companies are making huge profits, the companies struggle to compete against state run monopolies and build \$4 to 6 billion refineries.

The next step is to encourage nuclear power. Nuclear power, the most feared energy source in use today, has the potential to get us to the 20 percent emissions mark without losing our way of life. Yet, we haven't built a nuclear plant in this country since 1996 for two ridiculous reasons. First, talk of nuclear power conjures images of Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, and mushroom clouds. However, these disasters pale in comparison to the devastating toll that fossil fuel plants wreck on our collective health; four thousand people will die from the combined effects of the Chernobyl disaster compared to the 2.4 million people who died from air pollution last year. The second reason we haven't jumped at the chance to reap nuclear power's

see SENSIBLE on page 6



JIMMY gets CARV'D up

Tripod Staff Writer
Carver Diserens interviews
President Jones.

Carver Diserens: With the recent news regarding Eliot Spitzer (former Governor of New York) and Anibal Acevedo Vilá (Governor of Puerto Rico), I was wondering what you think causes people in positions of power to take such enormous risks. More succinctly, do you think that people must be preordained to that sort of behavior or does the power corrupt them?

Jimmy Jones: I would really like to know how long it takes you to come up with these questions, Carver. They're not the easiest questions in the world.

CD: If you want, we can just do favorite flavor of ice cream.

JJ: We could, but I don't think anyone would be interested. If they really want to know, they could ask the Chartwells people in Mather. That's a very difficult question. I suppose if one were to read Sophocles or Shakespeare, one would assume that Aristotle's view that we're all flawed would come into play in your question. In a case like the Governor of New York, it's very hard to understand from my point of view why one would allow oneself to be so vulnerable, as to have gotten involved with prostitutes and offshore payment schemes. In the past, it was letters that brought people down. Read *The Purloined Letter* or Laclos' novel *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* or even go see *Atonement*. There is one scene in *Atonement* where this young man who is infatuated with a young woman [and] types a really lascivious note about what he would like to do to her. Then he pulls it out of the typewriter and begins to type another letter. As soon as he pulls out the letter, semiologically you know what's going to happen, he's going to get the letters mixed up and send the young woman the wrong letter. In the pre-technological era let-

ters could destroy you. In the world of today, there is a kind of big brotherish sense. If you make a call from a cell phone somewhere and it's to a pimp, the whole world can know about it. I do think there is something to be said for power corrupting and a sense of complete invincibility. It's probably like Sophocles taught — it's the seed of one's own destruction. It is curious that when one reads about individuals of high station who besmirch their offices because of their behavior, how Sophocles and Shakespeare got there a long time before Eliot Spitzer started ringing up call girls. My brother is fond of saying that if President Bush had read Thucydides, he wouldn't have made any of the mistakes he has made in the Middle East. It is curious how the great masters of the past understood us, because — I guess — of the foibles of human nature.

CD: As a person in power, is there potential for abuse of power and have you heard of any specific examples when other presidents have abused their power?

JJ: Oh, I could give you an afternoon's worth of examples. However, one of the cardinal rules of [the] little group of presidents is that you'd be hard pressed to get any of us to discuss any of the rest of us. It's always been considered bad form. Sometimes presidents have made some financial expenditures that were questionable. Whenever neophyte presidents call me for advice, I always tell them that the rule is not to do anything that you can't put on the front page of *The New York Times*. Although, the pre-Socratics taught, what really counts is what you do when you are alone and anonymous in a foreign city. Epictetus knew that long before anybody had heard of escort services and offshore bank accounts.

Student Praises Israeli Accomplishments

SAM NEWMAN
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR



To this day, I can still remember the first time I ever saw the land of Israel. As the sun slowly started to rise from the corner of the sky, I looked down to see thousands of lights dotting the coastline. Streets, traffic lights, cars, hotels, large waves flirting with the white sandy beaches that seemed to stretch for miles, all shimmered in the inches of sunlight creeping up over the horizon of the Jordan Mountains. I had waited my entire life for this moment, and it had finally arrived.

Last week, however, I picked up *The Trinity Tripod* to discover an article that portrayed a much different image than the one I remember. The article, "Occupation of Palestine Should Not Be Celebrated," centers on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and Israel's oppression of the Palestinians. How could someone so viciously and falsely attack the state of Israel? It's a place I love, a land steeped in deep history, geographic beauty and friendly, warm people.

In my attempt to figure out how to eloquently respond to this article, I reasoned that I

was not going combat the author's argument. While the article has some factual inaccuracies (which I will point out later), I decided not stoop to the low level of the author's defense and pity mechanism, but rather educate the Trinity community on the state of Israel.

However, I felt I could not proceed without fixing one main falsity. To directly quote the article, "Labeling Hamas a terrorist organization ignores the very fact that without a state, Palestinians do not have a nationally-legitimized army of government." The Palestinians do have a legally recognized government, headed by Mahmoud Abbas of the Fatah party, which has a relationship with the state of the Israel. Hamas is labeled a terrorist organization worldwide, and even on its Web site (which coincidentally almost crashed my computer), Hamas recognizes and glorifies terrorism as a means of eliminating Israel from the map. No nation's statehood should ever be threatened, and as a result of Hamas, the region's security is constantly at risk, even after Israel signed peace agreements with Jordan and Egypt in the 1970s.

Despite Hamas' determination to destroy Israel, Israel is the only liberal democracy in the Middle East. Unlike what the aforementioned article stated, Israel provides equal rights to

all its citizens, including the 1.3 million Arab-Israelis who live within the borders of Israel. In addition, Israel is the only country in the region to grant equal rights to women, gays and other minorities. In 1991, Israel rescued over 2,000 Jews from Ethiopia in the course of 36 hours, Jews who were supposed to have been killed by the Ethiopian government. Furthermore, in 2006, Israeli doctors entered the Sudanese region of Darfur to provide medical assistance to refugee camps. To this day, Israel is the largest absorbing nation of immigrants anywhere in the world.

In terms of economics, Israel's \$100 billion economy is larger than all of Israel's neighbors combined. It is the second most listed country on the NASDAQ, and Israel is ranked number two in terms of venture capital funds, right behind the United States. Israel has the highest entrepreneur rate amongst women in the world, and developed the technology used in Windows XP, cell phones, voice messaging, and AOL instant messenger. It has pioneered medical technology used to cure breast cancer, and has modernized the pacemaker to prevent potential heart problems. To this day, Israel has the highest percent of home comput-

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Jafri's Article Factually Sloppy, Imperceptive

JORDAN FISHER
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR



Thank you for the kind birthday wishes on Israel's 60th, and for being very honest with everyone about your hatred for Israel. In essence, your argument is just a modern variation of classical anti-Semitism because anyone who can make such egregiously incorrect statements must be bothered by something more than a historical land conflict. Jafri's article wantonly injects opinions disguised as fact and in some cases even uses facts to draw false conclusions, not to mention she clearly chooses to selectively omit that which hurts its "cause." The record must be set straight; factually sloppy, erroneous, imperceptive, and hateful writing is unacceptable. We are all entitled to our own opinions but we are not entitled to our own facts. Let's reveal the wanton dishonesty and hateful speech within each of the author's assertions:

First, let's start with the basics, the "brutal occupation" that the author presents. The term "occupation" implies an aggressive effort to take over and rule a foreign people, however the Territories came under Israeli control during its defensive war in 1967 when Syria, Egypt, Jordan, and Iraq intensified terrorist attacks. Arab states and Palestinians refused to accept the Jewish State's right to exist and mobilized again in 1967 to destroy it. As Israel defended itself, it drove back Jordanian, Egyptian and Syrian troops and captured the Territories that fell on Israel's side of the armistice lines. During Egypt and Jordan's 19-year occupation, no one called for a Palestinian state that would include Gaza and the West Bank. West Bank residents became Jordanian citizens. The original PLO Covenant (1964) explicitly excluded the Territories from its description of Palestine and called instead for the destruction of all of Israel and replacing it with Arab rule, much in the same way that Fatah, Hamas, Hezbollah and others do. The PLO amended its Charter to include a claim to the Territories only after Israel captured them in 1967 (Article 24, PLO Covenant, 1964). Israel had no wish to rule over the Palestinians. Within two

weeks of the hostilities end, Israel offered to exchange land for peace, but Arab leaders categorically rejected the offer, officially issuing the "Three NOs" in Khartoum — no peace, no recognition, no negotiations (Khartoum Resolution, Sept. 1967). Since no Palestinian leader emerged as a peace partner, international law and UN Resolution 242 required that Israel administer the Territories until a successful peace treaty could be negotiated.

The reality of the situation is that during its administration of the Territories, Israel sought to improve the life of the Palestinians. Israel helped modernize Palestinian infrastructure (aiding in the creation of more than 2,000 manufacturing plants), established seven universities, expanded schools, taught modern agriculture, set up medical programs and opened over 100 health clinics. Israel instituted the first authentically Palestinian administration the local Arabs had ever known where the economy was the world's fourth-fastest-growing, unemployment plummeted to 2 percent, life expectancy soared, and the population nearly doubled in the 26 years between 1967 and 1993, when Israel began military withdrawal as it turned civil governance of the Palestinian population over to the Palestinian-elected government in accordance with the Oslo Peace Accords. By 1997, 98 percent of the Palestinian people were governed by the Palestinian Authority. Oslo called for the Palestinians to create a police force to control militants and they agreed to stop incitement and to accept Israel's right to exist. Yasser Arafat, who openly encouraged martyrdom on Palestinian television networks, rejected the 2000 Camp David Accords propagating the second intifada and a consequent redeployment of Israeli troops in emergency counterterrorism that were necessary because terrorist groups refused to end hostilities against Israel. Continuous offers by Barak in 2001, including 97 percent of contiguous West Bank, were rejected and terrorism continued. While Arafat was privately proud that his people were "prepared to sacrifice the last boy and the last girl," Israel was always committed to helping the Palestinians establish a viable state that could exist in partnership with Israel.

Despite ongoing terrorism and the collapse of peace negotiations, Israel remained as always committed to a lasting peace and continued its withdrawals. By 2005, Israel had

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Kirschbaum Has Necessary Experience

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But he came. We sat down and, three hours later, we, along with three other senators, we developed the Trinity College Safety Reform Proposal.

The SGA President must be willing to commit an enormous amount of time, regardless of convenience. Saturday's meeting was when I learned that he gets it.

Sometimes, you just have to stop what you're doing and get something done. Kirschbaum will do that.

Kirschbaum knows what he is getting himself into and understands that he will need to spend a great deal of time leading the SGA. He proved to me that he will do whatever it takes to get the job done as president.

I also want to address something I have been very concerned about. I believe that Kirschbaum is being unfairly discriminated against by some students. Kirschbaum is 25, and at his age, his only option to transfer to Trinity was through the IDP program. He is a full-time student and a junior for all intents and pur-

poses. He does not have some other day-job and he will graduate in May of 2009 with the rest of his class. Regardless of these facts, any IDP student is still a Trinity student, and first and foremost, we are all here to learn.

Kirschbaum has a great deal of experience and has proven himself at Trinity. In addition to his service on SGA as a senator, he has already been SGA President at another college, and serves on the SGA Budget Committee. I have never served on the Budget Committee, and as the SGA reevaluates the use of its funding, that particular type of experience is crucial for a presidential candidate.

Nathan also designed and launched the SGA's Web site www.TrinitySGA.com, and while its true use for students is still being developed, it has become a useful resource. For this election, he also launched www.NathanForPresident.com, where any student can go look up his positions on the issues that students care about. It goes without saying that this

is not only unconventional for a Trinity College SGA President, it's innovative. We need an SGA President who will continue to push the envelope and further transform the organization.

I have come to know Kirschbaum well and know he truly wants to make an impact during his time here. We have confronted a number of very important issues this year and I have worked very closely with him. I have relied on him for his sound advice and input and trust his judgment. One of Kirschbaum's best qualities is his commitment not to make a final decision until he believes that all opinions have been brought to the table. Kirschbaum listens and anyone on the campus can and should approach about him about their concerns.

When I had first taken office, many students had lost faith in the SGA and its ability to produce positive change for the College. I am proud of the progress the SGA has made so far this year, and I want that to continue. I hope this year will pale in comparison to the progress that will be made in the coming year. I can say with absolute certainty that Kirschbaum will be a dedicated and diligent president who will work to make that happen and make Trinity a better place by the time he leaves office.

One of Kirschbaum's best qualities is his commitment not to make a final decision until he believes that all opinions have been brought to the table. Kirschbaum listens and anyone on the campus can and should approach him about their concerns.

Newman Hails Israeli Democracy

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ers per capita in the world, and the second largest concentration of high tech companies, just behind Silicon Valley.

Israel was the only country to enter the 21st century with a net gain in trees, and a few years ago Israel installed the largest solar-powered, fully-functioning, electricity-generating plant in the world. Israel has the highest university degree to population ratio in the world, has developed high-tech irrigation to deal with water shortages, and most importantly, an Israeli citizen invented the Power Rangers (after he fled from persecution in Egypt in the 1950s).

So blow out your 60 candles Israel, and to directly quote the previous article, "Blow hard!" Thank you for providing the world with 60 years of democracy, freedom, technology, environmental stewardship, and human rights. Most importantly, I hope that in the near future, Israel can help the Palestinians blow out their own candles, commemorating and celebrating the founding of a Palestinian state.

Sensible, Not Fantastical, Climate Solutions Needed

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clean and abundant energy is that Americans have a "not in my backyard" mentality. Of course, no one wants to live in the shadow of a nuclear plant's trademark cooling towers, but the plants and waste have to go somewhere. In the case of the spent uranium, tax payers have spent \$9 billion creating the national Yucca Mountain Repository in Nevada. However, Senator Harry Reid (D-NV) is single-handedly stopping any of the waste from entering the grounds. Until Americans realize that their unfounded attitude is contributing to our addiction to fossil fuels, nuclear power remains a dream.

Finally, our country must increase investment in public transportation. The fastest way to reduce automobile emissions is not mandating increased fuel economy, but by taking cars off the road. The personal vehicle is the largest contributor to an individual's carbon footprint, and it is also the easiest to lower. The government needs to promote carpools, busses, and light rail, and citizens need to take advantage of opportunities. You can recycle all you want,

and buy energy efficient appliances, but that won't negate the emissions you release when you drive two hours to New York City. Instead, take Amtrak. Trains are not only an efficient carter of people, but goods as well. A single freight train can take 300 trucks off the road and move one ton of freight 423 miles with one gallon of fuel. This is an amazing way to cut auto emissions, yet the environmental lobby has driven practical measures like this out of our national dialogue. Instead, they want to talk about unfeasible proposals like wind and geothermal power.

In 1961, John F. Kennedy challenged us to put a man on the Moon and within years the three astronauts of Apollo 11 danced among the heavens. The space race was an endeavor that helped define the sixties' generation. But it wasn't a venture based on fantasy; we didn't just tape a thousand firecrackers to a fuselage. We expanded on existing technology. It took years of study, the efforts of many, and the lives of a few. This can be the story of climate change. When the U.S. unites behind common sense actions, then we can stop climate change.

Arguments Against Israel Flawed, Hatefully Written

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unilaterally withdrawn from the Gaza strip, uprooting more than 8,500 Jews who had built thriving communities. Israel left expensive infrastructure intact for future use by the Palestinians and even moved Jewish cemeteries out of the area. The day after Israel withdrew from Gaza, Palestinian gratitude came in the form of showers of ketusha rockets launched into Israel. Ancient synagogues were burned to the ground along with the numerous agricultural facilities left for their benefit. Since Israel's withdrawal in 2005, Palestinians in Gaza have launched over 1,000 rockets into Israeli civilian centers with no intention other than to shed Jewish blood. Look in the paper today. Buried in the news somewhere you will read that more rockets were fired into Israel, landing on playgrounds today and striking restaurants tomorrow. What did Israel do this time?

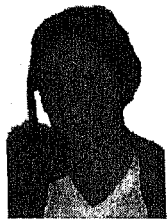
The author also grieves over the protective "wall" and numerous checkpoints throughout Israel continue to violate the human rights of Palestinians. I also grieve; I

grieve because this is no way that anyone should have to live their lives and the author is correct: they inconvenience many people. However, the reality is that Israel has the right – and obligation – to keep all its citizens safe. After unprecedented levels of terrorist attacks in 2003, Israel first erected checkpoints and a defensive barrier much like the dozens of other democracies around the world have. The author conveniently forgot to mention the terrorists who have entered into Israel dressed as pregnant women, or hidden in Red Cross Ambulances with bombs strapped to them. She failed to mention the eight teenagers who were executed at the Mercaz HaRav Jerusalem Seminary just weeks ago by a terrorist who had entered through a roadblock that had been recently dismantled by the Israeli government at the far hope of renewing the peace process? Of course, the majority of Palestinians are not terrorists, but there's no way to tell the difference between terrorists and peaceful Palestinians without stopping and searching everyone.

see www.trinitytripod.com

Productivity More Effective Than Anger

LUCY SCHIFFMAN
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR



First, I want to say I am sorry – sincerely, not sarcastically. I am sorry about whatever happened to

Fatima Jafri '08 that made her so angry, but I feel angry too. In the year that I spent living in Israel, I experienced countless humiliations and injustices. I have been spit on, called a thief, a killer, and a whore, among other things, and I lived there through both the pullout from Gaza and the beginning of the war with Lebanon. I witnessed friends who experienced tragedies firsthand, who have lost family members in previous wars, and after all of this, the emotion I feel most overwhelmingly is sadness, rather than misdirected anger. When I first read Jafri's article, a familiar flood of endless, blinding rage and anxiety overwhelmed me, but I took a deep breath and tried to remember that we have all experienced hardships that leave us angry and hurt, and rightfully so. However, I think that the last thing in the world that we

should do in response is to provoke more anger, hate, and arguments that only perpetuate the conflict. Her article, however, with its sarcasm, misinformation, and extraordinary hate, does just that. Her words are like bullets. And I am sick and tired of fighting; it is exhausting.

To address a few problems that I have with Jafri's egregiously one-sided argument: yes, she was searched for five hours at the airport. That sucks. Do you know why she was searched so thoroughly? One hundred percent of terrorist attacks in Israel have been committed by Muslim suicide bombers. Israel does not bother hiding behind the ridiculous facade of political-correctness. Racial profiling works — it works very well. In fact, the U.S. recently announced that it, too, will begin to practice the same type of profiling that Israel uses and has used for decades. This is necessary, because countless civilian lives are at stake. Literally every minute, every second, countless Muslim terrorists attempt to enter Israel in order to kill civilians, so yeah, you got searched, very carefully. It's the very same reason that there are so many checkpoints, as well as the controversial wall. I know it can be infuriating to be on the receiving end of all this, but I think, at least I hope, that you understand why.

The only thing I need to say about Hamas is that it is a self-described terrorist organization.

They purposely kill innocent people. When eight (mostly teenage) Israeli yeshiva students were gunned down while studying early this March, Hamas stated, "We bless the (Jerusalem) operation. It will not be the last." I cannot believe there are people in this world who are so evil; it leaves me speechless, and I cannot believe that it does not have the same effect on you.

Jafri does make several points that do have some validity; at the inception of Israel, many Palestinians civilians were displaced. That was wrong. No argument. They should be given reparations. The treatment of Arab-Israeli citizens as "second-class citizens" is also wrong. There are people working very hard to rectify the situation, and it is indeed, though slowly, getting better. Perhaps if some Arab-Israeli citizens stop providing aid to terrorists entering the state of Israel and cease to celebrate in the streets when there has been a terrorist attack, then this maltreatment would end sooner rather than later. On the other hand, many Arab-Israelis attend Israeli Universities (I personally studied with several of these students and it was a wholly positive experience), and they even sit on the Knesset (Israeli parliament), which gives them a voice in the democracy.

see www.trinitytripod.com

America Continues to Fight Cold War in 2008

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selves.

One of the first things they teach you in ninth grade history is that luxury, laziness, and complacency cause the downfall of once great empires. I'm no fool. I believe in the global economy and I know there is no going back to the days of cowboys and farmers, but we can't keep pretending to be a superpower. In my opinion, there cannot be a single superpower because a superpower has to have an adversary. If this country hopes to prosper, or even survive, I can see only two options. First, we could find another adversary. Though this option seems increasingly unlikely considering that today our only enemies are essentially guerrillas. Our other option is to step back from this hypersensitivity to the world and concentrate on our own needs.

We need a massive reallocation of resources – our bloated military budget is useless since we can't even find troops to fight this country's small-scale profit wars. Once respected government organizations, like NASA, have become swollen bureaucracies; incapable of even the simplest original actions because of low

budgets and misallocation of funds. Here is some food for thought: in a decade or so all the men who went to the Moon will be dead, along with the original cast of *Star Trek*. NASA hopes to return to the moon with the Orion project, but if it even gets off the ground at all, the space agency will have to spend billions of dollars relearning how to go to the moon because NASA, like nearly everything else in this country, will have suffered from over three decades of stagnation.

So how does this affect you? You're going to go get your job in corporate finance and live the good life – it doesn't matter if the country stagnates because you're upper class and you're going to stay there. It's not like the Soviets are going to come back and get you in your living room. Remember though, that the greatest danger isn't always from out there but in here. If your life gets destroyed it isn't going to be because of Soviets or terrorists or New Zealand, it is going to be because you were a victim of a dying state. And I can only hope that when I look back on this article in 50 years, God-willing, it will not be in a worse country than the one I sit in today.

Forum Addresses Trinity Campus Safety Issues

REBECCA BROWN
NEWS WRITER

In light of recent occurrences, the Student Government Association (SGA) hosted a forum Wednesday to discuss the issues of safety and sexual assault on campus. Students, administrators, and Campus Safety officers were welcomed to the Vernon Social Center to voice concerns and offer solutions to improve the safety of the Trinity College community.

Concerns about campus safety have been on the rise in the wake of last week's sexual assault, as well as other recent safety violations occurring between students. The inspiration for the forum came from student reactions. "It became clear that students were very concerned about safety on our campus and that the student government needed to quickly react and bring students together with members of the staff, Administration and Campus Safety in one room to answer questions and address the issue," said SGA President Andrew Pedro '08.

Merry Smith '09 was the first student to approach the SGA about problems she saw happening with safety on campus. She said that "the more I thought about what happened on Friday morning [March 28], the more afraid I was ... It also validated something that I have been concerned about for three years ... We are not safe on this campus." Smith highlighted that Trinity has an urban location, the occurrence of the sexual assault was absolutely unacceptable.

Smith continued, "I'm not pointing the finger of blame at anyone, but we as a community need to examine every option for improving the safety of our students. Everyone should get involved, not just students, but [also] administrators, parents, and trustees. We need to act."

Opinions were heated during the two-and-a-half-hour forum as numerous ideas were discussed about how to improve safety on campus. One idea, proposed by Verdell Walker '09, was the separation of Campus Safety and a shuttle service. Liana Brown '09 agreed, "The fact that officers are giving rides prevents them from doing other things like protecting our campus." Brown gives the idea of a college-provided shuttle service that can accommodate a large number of students and run regularly on Thursday through Saturday nights into the early morning.

"No student would wait at a given stop for more than 15 or 20 minutes," she said. "Also, once students knew the schedule they would make sure to be outside right before the shuttle would come so they wouldn't be waiting outside on the street, possibly by themselves."

Numerous complaints were lodged at Campus Safety regarding what many

students felt was their lack of presence, even after the events of last weekend. Pedro commented on this issue by saying, "We need to keep improving Campus Safety's visibility on campus and that can be achieved by focusing on making their cars more visible, the strategic placement of officers and their cars, and adding more staff to Campus Safety."

Making Trinity a closed campus by putting a fence around its perimeter was another proposed idea.

"The more I thought about what happened on Friday morning the more afraid I was ... it also validated something that I have been concerned about for three years ... We are not safe on this campus"

Merry Smith '09

Brown said, "I know it sends a bad message to the surrounding community, but we're not exactly sending a positive message as it is [...] Having different entrances that are guarded by Campus Safety officers would prevent people who are not students or do not have a legitimate reason [for being here] off the campus." The idea of a fence being erected is unlikely, however, as it could disrupt streets such as Crescent and Allen that don't belong to the campus, but rather to Hartford.

Accountability was also brought up in regards to both Campus Safety officers and students. Brown said that "students should become more responsible for themselves and others [...] we as stu-

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Obama Speech Spurs Forum on Race, Oration

SARAH HARVEY
NEWS EDITOR

Students and faculty took part in a Town Hall Forum discussion on Presidential candidate and Senator Barack Obama's March 18 speech. The forum, "Trinity College Considers a More Perfect Union," held on Tuesday, April 4, was sponsored by the President's Council on Campus Climate and the History, American Studies, Public Policy, Philosophy, and Religion Faculty.

Jack Chatfield, Associate Professor of History, took the initiative in getting the forum started. Allison Read, College Chaplain and co-chair of the President's Council on Campus Climate, said that she was asked to help coordinate the event after being approached by members of the faculty in the humanities who had generated the idea.

Chatfield began the forum with a dialogue on the history of oratory in the United States, and opened the floor for discussion on whether or not Obama's oratory skills show us that he is a "rare politician who merits our support." The student and faculty comments that proceeded ranged from a discussion of Obama's political qualifications to issues of race in general. Perspectives varied and came from all sides and political alignments.

Read was pleased with the outcome of the event. She enjoyed "hearing many different voices and different approaches of members of the community [and] multiple levels of discourse."

Read also emphasized that holding this forum represented an opportunity to see whether or not events such as this one are meaningful. The President's

Council on Campus Climate is looking at 30 recommendations on ways to improve the campus climate and this forum is only a piece of what they hope will be a wider effect. Whether forums such as this one are useful in engaging students and faculty is a question that is yet to be answered. Read emphasized the eagerness of members of the faculty to be approached and discuss what new steps might be worthwhile to take.

Dean of Students Frederick Alford was appreciative of the opportunity. "I always learn things when I listen to others and I learned a lot listening to the people who spoke on Tuesday. I liked the opportunity for members of the community to come together and talk and I am hopeful we can find a way to make it something we do three or four times a semester," he said.

SGA President Andrew Pedro '08 said that he found the forum a "unique opportunity to have students and faculty interacting in a meaningful way outside the classroom." However, Pedro also expressed his dissatisfaction with the number of students in attendance. "It's really important that we have these forums, but I was disappointed by the turnout. This is everyone's problem and we can't address it, until everyone comes together," he said.

The lack of student turnout may have been due to timing issues, as Read admitted. Not only was the forum forced to be organized on short notice due to the time-sensitivity of the issue, but it was also difficult to find a time of day convenient for both students and faculty. The forum was held at 4 p.m., making for an impressive number of faculty members in attendance but a disappointing number of stu-

dents. While a later time in the evening probably would have been more convenient for students, Read said, "Because [the forum] was faculty generated we wanted to honor their role and engage more faculty" by holding the forum early in the day.

SGA presidential candidate Nathan Kirschbaum '09 felt the forum was productive. "I am always surprised at the new things I learn whenever I attend forums. While we talked a lot about national issues, one of the most interesting occurrences was that the discussion kept turning back to Trinity. It is clear that people are concerned about the Campus Climate Initiatives," Kirschbaum said.

Kirschbaum does find these forums useful. He said, "I am glad that Obama gave his speech and I am even happier that we decided to have a conversation about it at Trinity College. We need to have more conversations like this."

Kirschbaum's opponent for the seat of SGA president, David Kimball-Stanley '09, also noticed the lack of student involvement in the forum. He said, "The forum was a great opportunity to explore [controversial] issues with faculty members, and get some perspective on how Obama comes off to others. If there was a downside to the event, it was that more students didn't show up. Many of the faculty members who were there [...] have shown a really great willingness to have discussions like this with students outside of the classroom. Students ought to really try to take advantage of the opportunities that are there thanks to people like that, because I know it's that sort of opportunity that attracted me to a small school like Trinity in the first place."

15th Annual Robot Contest This Weekend

NINNA GAENSLER-DEBS
NEWS WRITER

Over 110 teams from all over the world will come to Hartford this weekend to participate in Trinity College's 15th Annual Fire Fighting Home Robot Contest. This contest is one of the largest international events of its kind, and will include competitors from Canada, China, Israel, and the United States. There will be several Connecticut communities represented, as well as around 25 U.S. colleges and universities.

Teams will qualify in one of five categories: the junior division featuring middle-school students; the high school division; a senior division featuring college students; walking (for robots that use only legs to move); and the expert division, which is open to any team regardless of the contestants' ages or affiliations.

The contest will begin on Saturday morning at 10 a.m. with pre-qualifying rounds, a robotics symposium, and a poster session, in which each team will be given two minutes to discuss their personalized robot poster. One team will be selected and awarded.

Featured speakers include Dr. Jenelle Peipmeier, from the U.S. Naval Academy, Dr. Francois Michaud, from the University of Sherbrooke, and Dr. Paul Oh, from Drexel University.

The main competition will take place on Sunday in two different events. The first event is called the Robot Competition, in which autonomous computer-controlled robots will navigate through a maze resembling the floor plan of a house, locate a burning candle, and extinguish the flame in the shortest amount of time.

Contestants may not use joysticks or controls. The robot in each division that performs the task in the shortest amount of time will be acknowledged as the winner. Extra points will be awarded or deducted according to the effectiveness with which the robot performs the task. Cash prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third place contestants. The winning team in each division will receive a trophy, and members of the top three teams will each win a medallion.

In addition to these prizes, Versa Products Inc., the lead sponsor, has provided a free valve for every team. The team in each category that receives the highest score while using a Versa Valve will obtain a \$500 cash prize. The company's president and CEO is Jan Larsson, a Trinity alumna who graduated Class of 1977. In addition to being an alumna, Larsson is also a former student of Professor David Ahlgren, the contest director and Karl W. Hallden Professor of Engineering at Trinity.

The second competition, which was created last year, is called Robot Hide & Seek, in which robots compete to

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Presidential Candidates Debate Issues in Mather

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When asked what they considered their biggest achievement on the Senate, both responded with specific examples. Blum talked of the Web site, and Gretz spoke of when the SGA acquired recycling bins to place around campus. They were then asked what they want to accomplish over the 2008-09 school year. Blum said that he wants to make sure the SGA continues to hit issues head on, and Gretz said that he wants to delineate the line between student issues and administration issues.

The debate then switched to the candidates for SGA President. Throughout the debate, the main issue raised by Kirschbaum and Kimball-Stanley was the difference in campus involvement and relevant leadership. Kimball-Stanley made it clear that he has been a part of the Trinity community for the past three years, and has served on the SGA Senate for that long. Kimball-Stanley also made it clear that Kirschbaum has only been a member of the Trinity community for one year. Kirschbaum responded by saying that he has been incredibly involved with the SGA during his year here, as well as at his previous College. Despite this, Kirschbaum maintained that he wanted to keep the subject on that which he has accomplished at Trinity.

The first issue discussed in depth was that of Campus Safety. Both candidates identified the inadequacies in the current system, with Kirschbaum lauding the recently passed Trinity College Safety Reform Proposal, and Kimball-Stanley calling for more safety call boxes. Kimball-Stanley also pointed to his desire to implement Safe Walks.

Kimball-Stanley answered to the fact that he is a member of the Fred Pfiel Community Project (The Fred) many times throughout the debate, but made it clear that his membership does not imply that he is

against Greek life on campus, but quite the opposite. Both candidates maintained a pro-Greek stance.

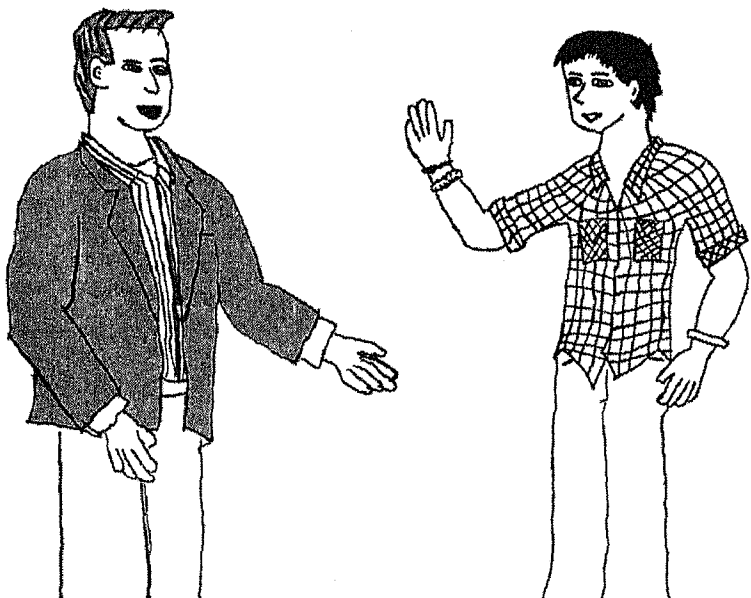
The debate became exceptionally heated when Kimball-Stanley brought up the issue of Kirschbaum's history of being identified as an Individualized Degree Program (IDP) student. Kirschbaum spent last semester on the SGA Senate as an IDP Senator, but now serves as a Senator for the Class of 2009. Kimball-Stanley criticized the stigma that is attached to IDP students, calling them "arguably the most discriminated against people on campus." Kirschbaum in turn criticized Kimball-Stanley for being the one to bring this issue up on the campaign trail.

Cabot asked the candidates to state the issue they most want to work on. Kimball-Stanley said that he wants to make sure that cable costs are transferred to housing funds, and Kirschbaum said that he wants to work on communication between students and the SGA.

Kimball-Stanley explained the circumstances under which he resigned during the last academic year in response to Kirschbaum's question to him. Both candidates were given the opportunity to ask one question of their opponent. Kimball-Stanley resigned under presidency of Devin Romanul '07, following frustration at inactivity.

Kimball-Stanley's question for Kirschbaum centered around what leadership experience he has at Trinity outside of the SGA. The only answer Kirschbaum could come up with was that he has applied to be a first-year mentor.

The elections will be held on Thursday, April 10. Running uncontested are Whitney Merrill '09 for Vice President of Finance and Ibrahim Diallo '11 for Vice President of the Multicultural Affairs Council. Students will be able to vote online.



Peter Kempson

Intercollegiate Update

University of Massachusetts

A 20-year-old student fell to his death from his 17th story dorm room in Amherst early on Friday, Apr. 4. The Massachusetts State Police are carrying out an investigation, and they do not expect foul play at this time. Students have been provided with adequate assistance to deal with this tragedy.

Smith College

A Smith student and a city resident were both subject to sexual misconduct from the same man, a visiting University of Massachusetts football player. The 22-year-old was charged with "open and gross lewdness" and freed on \$250 bail and ordered to stay away from the Smith campus and both victims.

Bryant University

Students have started using the university's Bryant Axis Television Channel and are airing the very first student run television show. The sports focused talk show is filmed once a week and aired throughout the week, and features discussions of sports, guest Bryant athletes, and a different theme in each episode.

Tufts University

The Tufts Community Union (TCU) Senate raised over \$12,500 with its first ever Dance Marathon fundraiser on Friday night. The event included 400 participants and 40 teams during the 12-hour marathon, and all money raised will be donated to the Children's Trust Fund of Massachusetts.

Yale University

Two sophomore students, after losing a competition for funding from the Yale Entrepreneurial Society in January, took their idea for a T-shirt design company to the Yale Entrepreneurial Institute instead. They are working on their Yale-relevant, student designed logos which will be printed on American Apparel T-shirts and sold for \$20.

University of Connecticut

With an aim of creating off-campus unity, the Off-Campus Student Services created a new position of off-campus community leader. This student will act as a leader in these new communities and will be paid to communicate information with neighbors and field questions relating to on and off-campus occurrences.

Students' Safety Discussed Post Assault

continued from page 7

dents need to be responsible for other students. We shouldn't let drunken students walk home by themselves or stay at a party when they're acting inappropriate and may end up getting in a fight. For those parties that take place at Greek houses, members of that particular organization should be responsible for people entering and leaving their house."

As for Officers, many students suggested an online venue in which complaints could be logged officially. "We should also have a formal complaint service that is not handled by Campus Safety. Students should be able to write in or call in to someone who is actually concerned about the students' concerns ... Campus Safety needs to know that we're monitoring their actions," Brown said.

Brown takes issue with the attitudes of certain Campus Safety officers, citing a lack of respect. This became evident during the forum itself when an officer, in response to a female student declaring she felt unsafe walking from one end of campus to the other, was overheard saying that it is just a "psychological" problem.

Brown has seen this attitude elsewhere as well: "On Thursday night, I had a supervisor tell me that he's not the type to blame the victim, but the female who was sexually assaulted on Friday morning put herself in a bad situation by leaving the back door of a fraternity where it was badly lit and [she] was drunk."

However, as Pedro said, "There are a number of Campus Safety officers that must be recognized for their commitment to protecting our college, but I also think that we must ensure that

every officer is held accountable for their actions and act in a manner that is consistent with the policies of the college and the Campus Safety Department. That will be achieved by clarifying our relationship with Campus Safety as students and establishing an online means of filing a complaint."

In regards to sexual assaults on campus, two main issues came to the forefront. The first was the amount of time spent during freshmen orientation detailing what acquaintance rape is and what resources are available for victims. The SGA's Sexual Assault Committee, formed last Sunday, March 30, will deal with this issue. Andrea Wise '11 says that the Committee's goals are "to educate people about what the laws are surrounding rape including the laws about sex when alcohol is involved, to bring a rape-prevention organization to campus, to encourage victims to testify against their attackers and to stray away from that mindset of 'oh, well I don't want to ruin his life ...', to change the atmosphere on this campus to a generally more accepting and less sexually threatening one by working with SafeZone and SART/PEACH for Pledge4Action."

The second issue discussed was supplying information about sexual assaults on campus to students in order for them to better protect themselves. Wise, who pushed for the

information to be included in Campus Safety alerts, said, "I think that there's a perception on this campus that acquaintance rape is not a real threat, but people need to watch out for themselves and for each other, but I don't think it's possible if students don't know what's going on around them. There is, in a lot of ways, too much trust for the fellow student on this campus, and I think that reporting a statistic about the number of reported sexual assaults that occurred, let's say, every month, would serve as a reminder to students that they need to protect themselves."

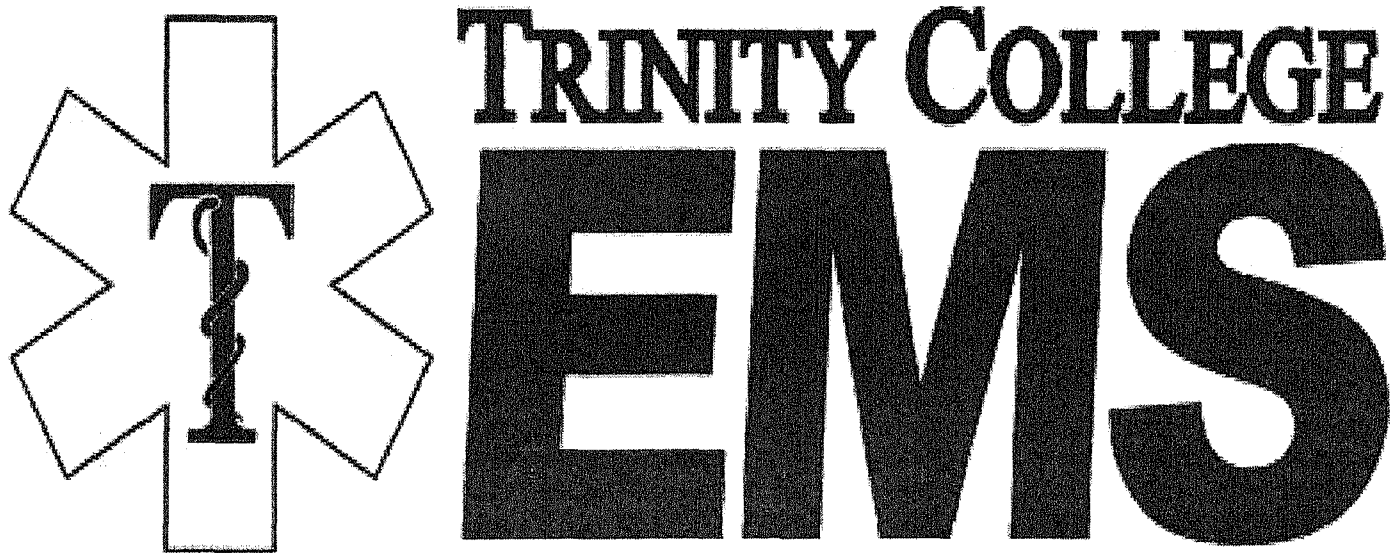
"There are a number of Campus Safety officers that must be recognized for their commitment to protecting our college, but I also think that we must ensure that every officer is held accountable for their actions."

Andrew Pedro '08
SGA President

However, I was disappointed that more people weren't there especially that more campus organizations weren't represented," she said.

As for how the SGA is going to proceed, Pedro said that "Using the recommendations from the forum, I'm working on a proposal to improve safety on campus which will include proposing recommendations and assembling a committee with representation of students, staff, the Administration and Campus Safety to implement the recommendations and identify further solutions."

Informational Session



TCERT is an excellent opportunity for all. The responsibility and experience of emergency care speak volumes on a resume, for community service, and pre-health students. All those interested are encouraged to attend, regardless of experience.

**An informational meeting will be held
Sunday, April 13 at 7 pm,
McCook Auditorium**

For questions or concerns contact Isaac Oransky,
Training Officer, at
isaac.oransky@trincoll.edu

Engineering Competition Serves as Training Ground

continued from page 7

find a doll that represents a frightened, hiding child in a simulated house. This contest is sponsored by the Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities. Cash prizes and medallions will be awarded to the top three teams.

And there's more. The Cost Effective Challenge features robots that complete the challenge with the best time and lowest design cost, and will offer cash prizes to the two most commendable robots. One robot will be chosen as the most original and creative design concept. At the conclusion of the entire competition, the best overall robot will be titled the World Champion, and will receive a trophy and a certificate of achievement.

Several groups from Trinity College have registered for this competition. The first is the Engineering 120 class, which has divided into

eight teams of three. The Trinity College Robotic Study team, a group of students who formed a seminar as an Independent Study has also entered. The last group to register from Trinity College is T Ready, a group of students who teach children at the Bellizzi Middle School to build robots.

Ahlgren is enthusiastic about the upcoming contest. "It's a big deal. Hundreds of people come from different places to compete. Engineering students use this competition as a training ground. They learn how to correct mistakes."

David Ahlgren
Karl W. Hallden Professor
of Engineering

urged Trinity students to come attend the event. "There are people who come from all over, but not many people come from Trinity. We would love people to come, and for people to volunteer as judges and timers."

THE CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

Saturday, April 5
2:32 a.m.
North Campus Dormitory

Non-students visiting the College tramped through North Campus Dormitory, knocking over trash barrels.

Saturday, April 5
4:12 p.m.
Mather Hall

A member of one of the acts performing at Trinity's International Hip Hop Festival fell to the ground at Mather Hall.

Saturday, April 5
8:11 p.m.
Wheaton Dormitory

TCERT responded to a student complaining of headaches and dizziness. The student was taken by ambulance to Hartford.

Sunday, April 6
1:18 a.m.
Vernon Place

Campus Safety received a report of breaking glass on the third floor. When they arrived at the scene they found a smashed bottle.

Sunday, April 6
3:47 a.m.
Anadama Dormitory

A fire alarm went off in the Anadama dormitory. Upon searching the scene, Campus Safety found out that the fire was caused by a

Sunday, April 6
2:50 p.m.
Goodwin-Woodward Dormitory

A fire alarm was set off by incense burning in an empty room. Campus Safety found a faint smell upon arrival but no inhabitants.

Draft Plan Aims to Redistribute Power

continued from page 1

and contributes to the balkanization and narrow disciplinary professionalism of the Faculty by discouraging widespread Faculty involvement in the broader operation of the College." The e-mail continued, "We are especially concerned that the elimination of [certain committees] undermines shared responsibility in important matters of governance and adjudication and may concentrate power in the

hands of too few members of the Faculty." These members of the Faculty are contest the Revision of Faculty Governance Draft Plan, believing that it will decrease Faculty influence within the College.

President James F. Jones, Jr. also supports a Revision of Faculty Governance, whether or not he agrees with that which is outlined in the Draft Plan. He observed, "A lot of faculty governance models in the Country seem to continue

to exist by inertia without anybody ever asking, 'Is this the most efficient way to fulfill one of the most important roles of the Faculty at a liberal arts college?'"

The Faculty Conference has already presented their Revision of Faculty Governance Draft Plan to the Faculty on Wednesday, March 12, and Thursday, Apr. 3. An additional meeting is scheduled for today, Tuesday, Apr. 8, at which Faculty members may discuss their concerns.

THE TEMPLE STREET TOWNHOUSES

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Ph: 860-768-3500
TempleStreetTownhouses.com

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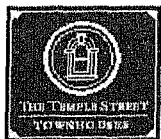
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BEYONCE AND JAY-Z MARRIED IN NY - 30 ROCK, PROJECT RUNWAY WIN PEABODY AWARDS - FENWAY OPENER TODAY

SAY NO TO SEXUAL VIOLENCE ON CAMPUS!

Thursday, APRIL 10

6:30 P.M.

**CAVE PATIO
MATHER HALL**

**RAIN LOCATION:
GALLOWS HILL COMMUNITY LOUNGE
HALLDEN HALL**

Trinity College
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

Sponsored by:

**Sexual Assault Task Force (SATF), Sexual Assault Response Team (SART),
Women & Gender Resource Action Center (WGRAC),
Peer Educators Advocating Campus Health (PEACH),
Asian American Student Association (AASA), and Zeta Omega Eta**

Hip-Hop Festival Brings Variety of Culture and Talent to Trinity

SARAH GARDINER
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

The third annual Trinity International Hip Hop Festival took place on Friday Apr. 4 through Sunday Apr. 6 at various places throughout campus. As usual, artists hailed from all over the world, performing their particular skills in a series of memorable performances.

When you think about it, it's a one in a million shot that the largest international hip hop festival in North America takes place at Trinity College, a predominantly white, elite liberal arts college. When you view this within the context of Hartford (the second poorest city in the nation), and then Connecticut (the richest state in the union) it's even more incredible. Partially because it is so unexpected, people are drawn to it.

For one weekend three years running, artists from all corners of the globe chill out in Mather, walk the Long Walk, and rock their particular forte within the five elements of hip hop (graffiti, break dancing, DJ-ing, emceeing, and knowledge).

Although turnout was disappointingly low in terms of Trinity students for the performances on both Friday and Saturday night, the festival was, without doubt, another success. One of the goals of festival founders David Lenzner '08, Jason Azevedo '08, and Magee McIlvane '06, was to shake things up. This was undoubtedly achieved this past weekend.

The Trust Your Hustle Crew returned for another graffiti workshop and all-day mural painting. This was one of the better attended events on campus, as the unexpected spring weather had a large amount of people outside.

This year brought an exciting new component to the table, with the addition of a break dance battle. Fabel of the famous Rock Steady Crew presided as host over the heated competition which included local talent. The surprise winner of the five hundred dollar prize was a nine-year-old local youth. Comments Alicia Cox-West '11, "The talent that was displayed [at the breakdancing workshop] surpassed anything that I could have ever imagined. There were little kids who took full advantage of the free time and got on the linoleum to do a couple of moves."

This element of surprise, the sense that anything can happen, is a crucial component of the festival. Backstage is an intensely chaotic amalgamation of student organizers, internationally renowned artists, producers, and hip hop enthusiasts from all walks of artists. In a general observation of hip hop culture, the house DJ for the entire weekend, DJ Boo, stated, "Hip hop culture has always been very accepting of people who respect it." This sentiment was shared into every human interaction of the weekend. Artists of both the older and the newer hip hop generations arrived to show their work and learn from each other. Khingz, an emcee from southern Seattle, sums this sentiment up with the general question, "What's the movement like where you're coming from?"

Hip hop is indeed a movement. As Nico of Ill-literacy, a Bay Area spoken word group, stated, "hip hop culture derives from oppressed culture." This is a fluid category which transcends national and self-imposed borders. This year's festival

included artists from Portugal, Zimbabwe, Prague, the Czech Republic, and Iraq, to name a few. Performances occurred in multiple languages. Some of the best-received sets of the weekend occurred in a language other than English. One of the best examples was Sam the Kid and his band. Hailing from Portugal, Saturday night's energy was at its highest when he took the stage. This feeling of solidarity was further emphasized by the distribution of multi-national flags by festival organizers.

Throughout the entire weekend the combination of a variety of cultures was inescapable. Y-love, a Hasidic emcee sponsored by Hillel, took the stage to a crowd which included isolated stragglers from various campus theme parties. He was followed by female emcees Invincible and Pri.

Spoken word artists Melissa Noelle Green of Hartford and the Ill-literacy crew became possibly the first ever spoken word artists to take the Trinity stage and effectively shut up the audience in attendance.

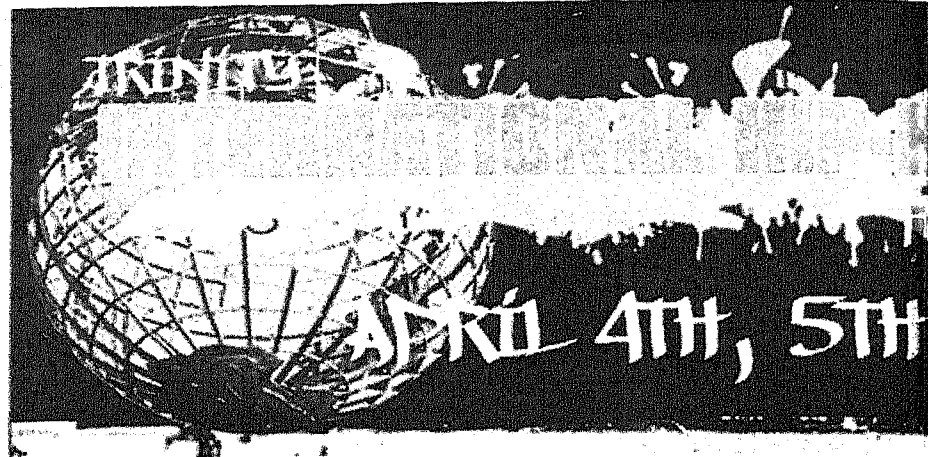
U.S. emcee Blitz and Canadian emcee held it down both nights as hosts. Both are return artists to the Trinity stage. Both also performed individual sets. Blitz had a full band backing him and Eternia rocked by herself. Both artists echoed the themes of empowerment heard throughout the weekend.

However, some of Eternia's lyrics featured themes of specific female empowerment. Although not all the female emcees focused on issues specific to their gender, every female performance was powerful. This year's festival is one more definitive proof that, yes, a sister can rock a mic.

Knowledge is an element of hip hop that is too often left out of mainstream perceptions of hip hop. One of the strengths of the Trinity festival is its ability to return to this. Panels this year included a spoken word workshop hosted by local talent Melissa Noelle Green, Asians in Hip Hop, and an Old School Panel featuring legends Grandmaster Caz, DJ Tony Tone, Grand Wizard Theodore, and DJ Disco Wiz.

This element is also present through attitudes of individual artists. A weekend stand-out and second time festival participant stated, "Hip hop for me is highly intellectual people hovering over politics." Activism is generated through this knowledge base. DJ Boo summarized his hopes for the contributions of hip hop music to activism, "If it doesn't make a change, it at least puts the thought in people's minds and makes them think."

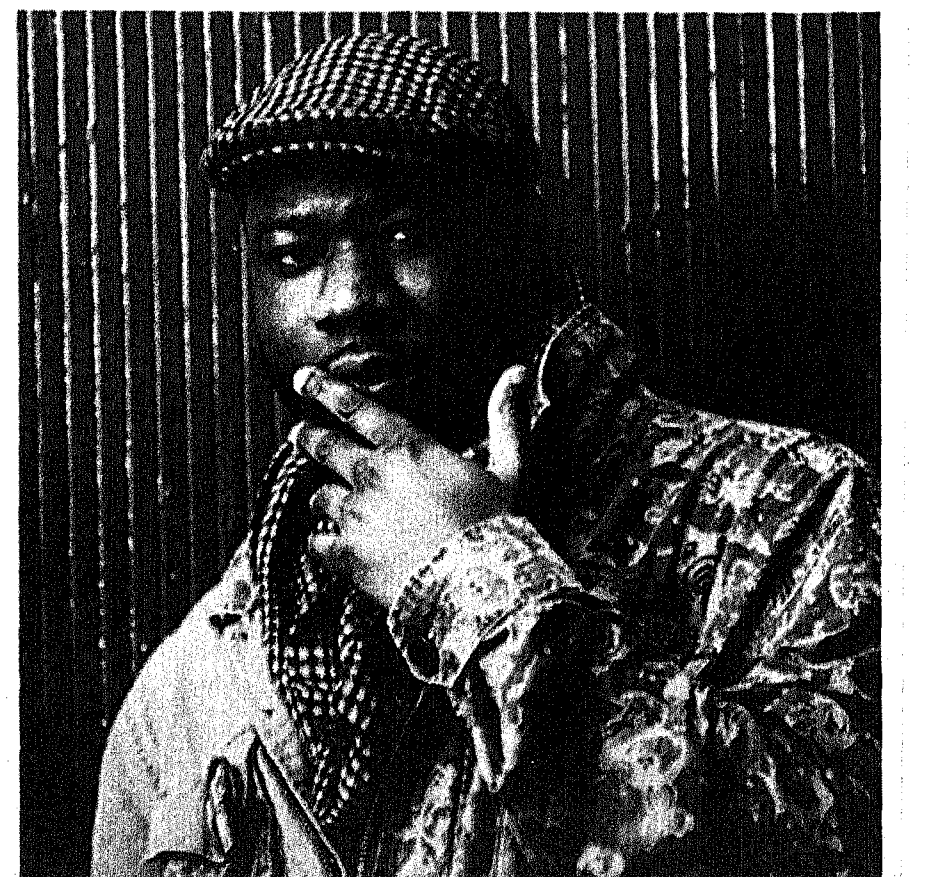
The foundation has clearly been laid due to the efforts of all who work year round organizing the Trinity International Hip Hop Festival. Although the visionaries behind the festival are due to graduate this year, there are more than enough remaining hip hop enthusiasts to keep it going. Organizer Jason Azevedo affectionately has dubbed the class of 2010 and 2011 Trinity's, "hip hop generation," the first Trinity students who arrived on campus to find an established hip hop scene. The hip hop movement at Trinity College has grown in leaps and bounds, congruent to the wider global movement it strives to connect with.



THE ELEMENTS: Hip Hop History, Theater, Politics, Disc



Photo Credits: Erin G. Caner and Jordyn Sims

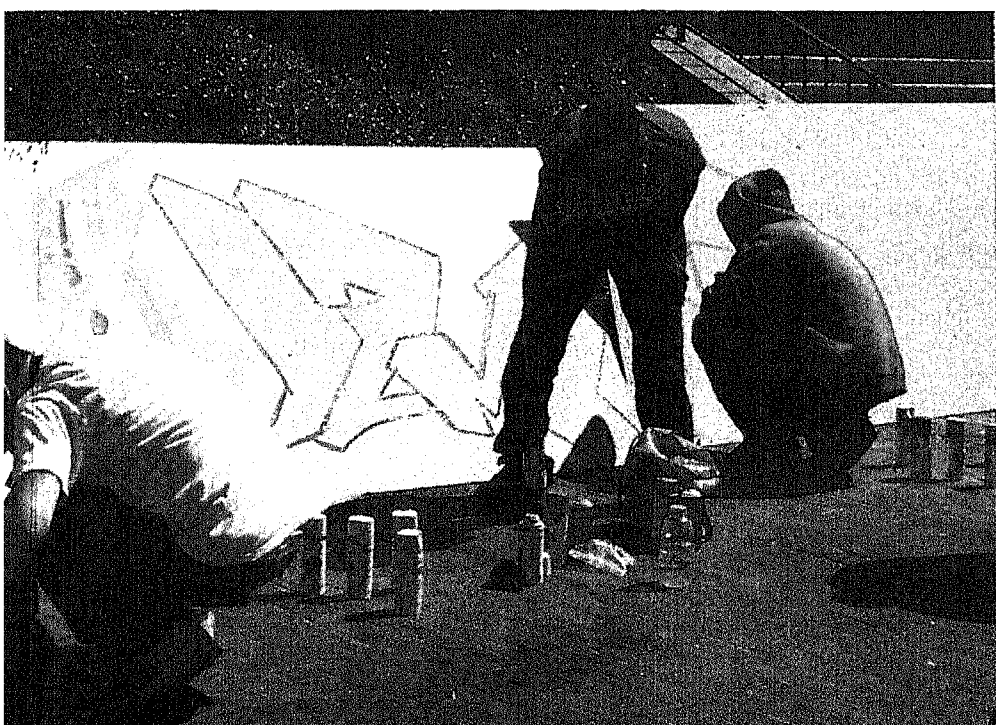


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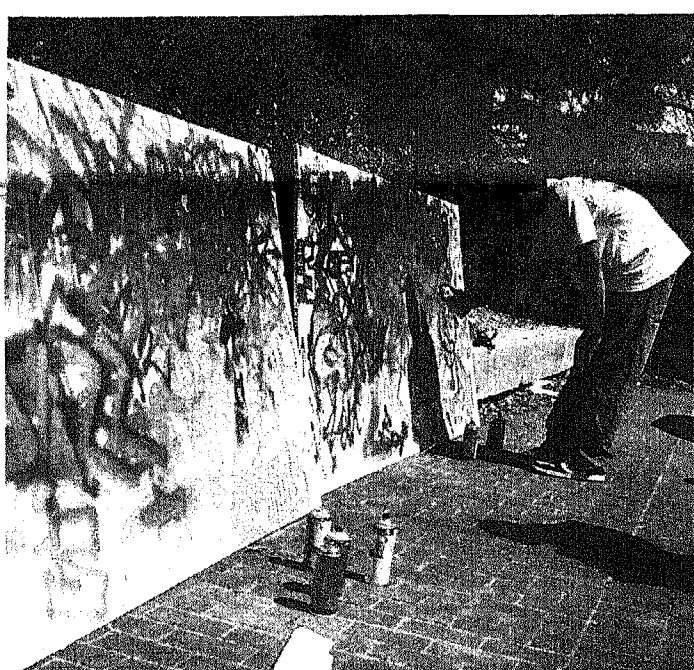
Blitz the Ambassador served as the host for Trinity College's International Hip Hop Festival.



Discussions on the Origin of Hip Hop, Workshops, Graffiti Mural Painting, and Performances



Artists from the "Trust Your Struggle" art collective came to the Cave patio on Saturday afternoon to lead a workshop on graffiti art. As a part of the Trinity International Hip Hop Festival, the workshop worked to express hip hop culture and energy. Various artists also performed at Vernon Social Center both Friday and Saturday nights in a variety of languages.



Graffiti Mural Work Workshop Impresses

WEI WEI YU XI
ANNOUNCEMENTS EDITOR

The energizing hip hop music was played at the maximum volume and the dancers, some as young as first grade were making seemingly impossible dance moves to their hearts' content. The Cave patio was not merely host to a graffiti mural workshop, but it was also alive with a multi-dimensional hip hop show for the third annual International Hip Hop Festival at Trinity College.

The graffiti mural paintings were a visual feast. Using spray cans commonly used for graffiti and inspired by the music and dance, the muralists painted huge white cardboard canvases to create beautiful artwork. The strokes lent a casual touch to the paintings, only belied by the elaborateness of the finished works. With bold and contrasting color combinations and thick, substantial lines, these graffiti paintings were quite impressive.

There was one painting representing an array of different moves including hip hop and martial arts. This particular painting depicted a woman and a man. The woman is swinging her long arms around, and her exaggerated blue fingers are especially prominent. Her image is complemented by the man, who seems to be in the hip hop mood. The expressive nature of both hip hop dance and martial arts is therefore captured through the portrayal of the seemingly uninhibited moves of the people in the painting. Other paintings featured English words that are not very easy to read and resemble some abstract objects at the same time. These works often featured political topics.

A group of artists from "Trust Your Hustle," a subdivision of the "Trust Your Struggle" art collective, hosted the graffiti mural painting workshop. They are a group of people from diverse backgrounds who share the same dream of capturing the struggles all around the world through artwork. (More information about "Trust Your Struggle" can be found on their Web site www.trustyourstruggle.com.) They are young, energetic, and friendly people. Besides the mural paintings, they were also selling T-shirts with their art on the front and specially designed artsy booklets. Most of the art on the items for sale featured political struggles. Their mission statement can be found online at www.trinityhiphop.org.

Trinity students also had their share in this exciting graffiti workshop. Faci Cantave '11 was the DJ. He told me about the interesting facts about graffiti art: for example, each graffiti artist has a nickname. He is a graffiti artist too, with the nickname of "case1." There were a lot of students either helping out at the site or simply enjoying the show. The atmosphere reached a climax later in the afternoon when a crowd of Trinity students watched the show with great interest and this further encouraged the performers who were doing the incredible hip hop moves.

Like all other events of the hip-hop festival, the graffiti mural painting was a great success. As one of the four essential elements of hip hop culture, the workshop opened viewers' eyes to a type of art different from fine arts but equally expressive of the artists' ideas. It also helped those interested in hip hop in gaining a deeper understanding of it.

Festival Host Blitz Discusses Hip Hop in Today's Culture

ALISA COX-WEST
ARTS CONTRIBUTOR

Trinity Tripod: What brings you to the festival and what aspects of the festival do you really enjoy?

Blitz the Ambassador: What brings me to the festival is [...] basically the collective that they form that I've been a part of for a year now. They told me about this event and it's inspired me just based on the concept of hip hop being a global thing. I'm originally from Ghana so this stuff ain't new to me, but for a lot of people, you know they only have one view of hip hop. I have a nice global feel of hip hop and a lot of it just from living in Ghana and touring, of course, overseas, to get a good concept of that. So what tonight celebrates is a diversity and the fact that hip hop as a culture, has bridged so many gaps - racial, gender, cul-

tural, you know what I mean? It's brought all these people together and I think it's really important that tonight celebrates that.

TT: What do you hope to achieve after or during the festival?

BLITZ: I'm looking forward to checking out some new acts like myself because you know, I'm a fan, too. I'm always listening for new artists, trying to see who's doing what, and tonight has got to be an opportunity to bring people together from all over the country, Seattle, D.C., Florida, you know, all sorts of people are

here. And everybody's kinda here to showcase what they do so tonight is an opportunity for me to broaden my horizons about independent artists, like myself

"What tonight celebrates is a diversity and the fact that hip hop as a culture has bridged so many gaps - racial, gender, cultural [...] It's brought all these people together."

Blitz the Ambassador
Hip Hop Festival Host

mainstream-wise, but I think the parts that have always been true to us have always remained in a place where it just cannot be touched by commercialism based

on how real it is. So more than any time before I think hip-hop is just back to where it started, when it was impossible to get your records on the radio, it was impossible for you to get big venues, all those things that you couldn't achieve because hip hop wasn't considered pop, and that's not, at least the hip hop that I do. So I think that there's a beautiful struggle in that when you're able to achieve that [...], that's what hip hop is about, it's like ... when somebody takes up nothing and makes something, that's what it's about. So, when people think that the golden era was when everybody could easily get a deal, and when rappers came a dime a dozen, that to me was like, the time when we were kinda fooling ourselves. Now it's a challenge back again where artists have to work. Artists have to understand what it means to be on stage [...] It's returned to what it was,

which was difficulty, and trying to reach people, and that was what hip hop was.

TT: If there's one thing that you've never gotten a chance to say and that you would like to say, what would it be?

BLITZ: It would be support the art, because you know, the art is. It's grass roots - it's always been grass roots. And it's just not enough to talk about how [...] how you hate the radio and how you hate this and hate that [...] Find an artist that you believe in, find ways to let your friends know about them. Word of mouth is the best promo that anyone can ever get. Put yourself in a position where you can help the artist that you like and not just talk about them being something that you wanna keep to yourself. I really hope that fans buy the records, or download the music. We've just really go to support the arts.

FEATURES

The Trinity Tripod

Fred Hosts Andelloux, Dominatrix and Foot Fetish Model

KRYSTAL RAMIREZ
OPINIONS EDITOR

"Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Orgasms" was the theme of Erotic Justice event held at The Fred Pfelil Community Project last Wednesday, April 2, featuring special guest speaker Megan Andelloux. The event was organized by Amanda Persad '10 for her "Sexual Labors in the United States" course, with Stephanie Gilmore, Visiting Assistant Professor of History and American Studies.

Persad summarized it best, saying, "[Andelloux] is helping to strengthen the sexual movement. What she does stands for all of that."

Part of the course involves conducting an interview with a sex worker, to be included as part of a bigger work, "an audio tribute," as Persad put it, called "Voices of Sexual Labor," put together by Gilmore. This is where Andelloux came in for Persad. Andelloux works as a dominatrix and foot fetish model, as well as a gynecological teaching associate. She also works at a feminist-run sex shop.

"I feel my mission in life is to bridge the gap between the medical and the pleasure-centric models of sexuality and I

aim to do this in a sex-positive and sassy, yet professional manner," she says on her Web site, www.OhMegan.com.

"She is more than just what she does for a living," Persad said. "She is an educator and very well-informed. People here have very narrow views, and they should hear the stuff she has to say."

Andelloux echoed the statement: "We need to get people talking about sexuality. I provide a safe space, so people can do that. It causes a commotion, which is something a math class doesn't do, although sex is just as important as math."

For her presentation, Andelloux was wearing a little black dress and bright red heels, completing her signature look with square frame glasses. According to Persad, this was actually Andelloux's fourth visit to Trinity College. However, there was a sparser crowd than usual at Andelloux's appearances — only a few dozen people were in attendance.

To start off the night,

"The information that [Andelloux] provides dissolves the stigmas surrounding active sex lives that should not at all be stigmatized."

Betsy Perez '10

Andelloux began by showing a YouTube video called "Dildo Diaries," a documentary-style clip about a woman who was unable to buy the sex toy in Texas, as sex toys were illegal. (Very recently, this law has changed; however, their sale is still illegal in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, and

Tennessee.)

After hearing the audience's bewilderment, Andelloux said, "We're not dealing with medical facts tonight; we're dealing with politics." She emphasized the fact that every-

one's civil liberties were slowly being taken away, without anyone even realizing.

Andelloux made sure there was an ongoing discussion about all of the topics she broached. "I'll start breaking out into hives if I'm the only one talking," she warned.

After her introduction to the whole subject, Andelloux had all the attendees draw two pictures: one of something general that disgusted them, one of something sexual that disgusted them. She then asked

for the pictures to be taped to the wall, and for everyone to gather around and discuss them. The pictures ranged from things like rotting garbage and unflushed toilets to bestiality and anal sex. Her point was that what some people find repulsive, others see as acceptable and even turn-ons. She said, "Some of you are probably going to go home tonight and think to yourself, 'Wow, I do that, and somebody thinks it's gross.' Mull it over. You shouldn't feel like a bad person, but you should think about it."

The interactiveness of Andelloux's presentation seemed very effective. Also, her forthright manner with it all made what could have been an uncomfortable, awkward conversation into something easy and informative to take in, without being clinical or lecture-like.

The discussion moved then to the religious right and their attempts at controlling and limiting what people can and cannot do in their personal lives. She used many good examples of current cases and trials that are going on in the courts today to illustrate what she was saying. Andelloux also brought up activist judges, as well as such organizations as

the XXX Church, passing around a sample Bible that they hand out at porn star conventions. She showcased a video on their Web site called, "Save The Kittens," which declared that, "Every time you masturbate, God kills a kitten." The conversation about these topics was so captivating that it lasted for over two hours.

"I thought it was interesting," Daisy Ramos '10 said, "It was my first time attending one of [Andelloux's] talks and it wasn't at all what I thought it was going to be like. I was surprised at how open everyone was to talking about subjects that are sometimes a little uncomfortable to talk about. It was also another reminder of just how much politics affects our daily activities."

Betsy Perez '10 agreed, "Events such as these are crucial to dispel ignorance about sexual health. Furthermore, the information that [Andelloux] provides dissolves the stigmas surrounding active sex lives that should not at all be stigmatized."

This was Andelloux's second event at Trinity this year. She also spoke during the Fall semester at a Fred event on the art of the female orgasm.

Ask Annie: Inhalation Information

ANNE BENJAMIN
FEATURES EDITOR

Dear Annie,

Please tell me a little about the effects of marijuana on the body.

-- Suspicious Smoker

Dear Suspicious Smoker,

Marijuana is a hot issue today because of its debated legalization and widespread use. It is the third most popular recreational drug in the country, behind alcohol and tobacco. Most specifically, there are three different species of Cannabis: *sativa*, *indica*, and *ruderalis*. Cannabis has been around for ages in various forms as a naturally growing plant around the world. Since it is literally a weed, it grows abundantly in many different climate conditions.

The Cannabis plant contains over 400 chemical components, and approximately 60 of them are completely unique to cannabis. Delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol (better known as THC) is the most mind-altering substance in marijuana. But the effects are also due to many other chemicals, including CBD, CBN, CB1, and CB2.

About 20 to 25 percent of the chemicals are absorbed when smoking, and about six percent are absorbed when

marijuana is ingested. The strength of the effects of marijuana depends on the amount of THC contained in the bud, but the most potent THC comes from the female plant because the female does not have to expend energy making seeds.

When you smoke marijuana, it takes only seconds to begin to work. The few different ways to smoke marijuana result in different concentrations of THC in the body. FYI, paraphernalia is illegal, especially on campus. The "healthiest" way to smoke marijuana is through a vaporizer. A vaporizer heats the buds just enough to release the THC without generating smoke. The next healthiest device is the water pipe, or bong. These devices filter the smoke through water, sometimes multiple times depending the elaborateness of the pipe. Water filtration is beneficial because it filters some carcinogen, and also cools the smoke so it is less harsh on your lungs. Pipes and joints allow direct smoke to enter into the lungs and are the harshest ways to smoke. Remember, when smoking joints mixed with tobacco, called "spliffs," it's a little more dangerous, because the tobacco is not filtered like it is in a cigarette.

Upon inhalation, the smoke travels directly to your lungs where it is quickly absorbed by millions of alveoli (receptors in the lungs) and the chemicals enter your bloodstream where

they travel to the brain. THC affects the parts of the brain that contain cannabinoid receptor sites. These receptor sites contain anandamide, a chemical in the cannabinoid family that exists naturally within the brain. THC mimics anandamide, which interferes with normal neurotransmission. The receptor sites are concentrated mostly within the basal ganglia, which deal with unconscious muscle movements, the hippocampus, which is involved in making new memories and short-term recollection, and the cerebellum, which controls coordination. Marijuana will take longer to kick in when it is eaten and consequently, the effects will also last longer. THC takes longer to absorb into the body through the stomach and liver than the lungs.

The apparent reality of the effects of marijuana is that everyone is affected differently. Some people love it; they feel more relaxed, less stressed, and without pain. Some people hate it, experiencing paranoia, sluggishness, or depression. The other negative effects of marijuana are that smoking it is dangerous to your lungs and short-term memory may be altered. Some people experience bloodshot eyes because of dilated blood vessels, and the "munchies" are caused because marijuana interferes with the

see EFFECTS on page 16

Carver Interviews ...



Larry
Dow

Dean of
Admissions and
Financial Aid

This week, Carver interviews Larry Dow, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid.

Carver Diserens: You've been here at Trinity since your high school graduation. What has kept you here for so long?

Larry Dow: I have found admissions work to be not just a really interesting view into the cross-section of other people's lives, but it has also allowed me to better understand colleges and my own college. I think I left after four years without really understanding the way this school works.

Carver: Were you surprised when you were appointed Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid?

Larry: Yes and no. That's an interesting ques-

tion. This may sound a bit self-serving, but I had never really sought [the job], for one thing. I had been very happy in the associate-level work and never really was drawn to the next level of management. On the other hand, I had been working here an awful long time. My boss at the time basically gave me the encouragement and told me that it would be a mistake not to take the job. I don't want to say I had to get "talked into it," but I had to be sort of convinced that I would like doing this.

Carver: How has your perception of Trinity changed from being a student until ultimately your work as Dean of Admissions? Has it been more or less positive in any respect?

Larry: I have been fortunate enough to be men-

see DISERENS on page 16

Alums Experience Shanghai Success

AILEEN McBRIDE
DESIGN EDITOR

You've just hung up your cell and are grinning like a complete idiot, because the interview you've been crossing your fingers for has finally materialized. You aggressively pounce on your closet to dig around for your sharpest interview attire. Unfortunately, you won't find any, because the only pants you own fit you last year. Oh hey, freshman / sophomore / junior / senior 15 ... 20. What now? You peruse the selections at J.Crew and Brooks Brothers, hoping and praying that they have something that isn't painstakingly handcrafted by the limbless children of Senegal, from the fine, underbelly hairs of the endangered Tibetan antelope. After doling out an extraordinary amount of cash for your Spring Break shenanigans, you are, once more, a broke college student. Typical. You can't very well show up at this interview in a haphazardly-assembled Forever 21 ensemble, and nothing seems to be within your budget. Cue tears and a tantrum.

Enter DressMonkey.com. DressMonkey is the brainchild of Coley Dale, formally Richard Colegate Dale III, and Jeff Horowitz, who met during a semester abroad in China. A Trinity alum of 2003, Dale and Horowitz moved to Shanghai, China after graduation to escape the i-banking hell that we all seem to be pursuing so eagerly.

"Corporate culture is comfortable - a little too comfortable," said Dale, "I think if you don't mind some risk in your life, then you are a prime candidate for entrepreneurship."

As unappealing as spending your eternity in the confines of a cubicle sounds, entrepreneurship isn't all it's cracked up to be either. "I certainly went through some rough spells with it, though. You have to justify this decision, which sometimes no one else thinks is right except for you, and in the face of parental disagreement (but eventual support), I guess one has to really believe in the cause. But the difference between the corporate gig and bootstrapping (my lame word for entrepreneurship) is that I generally have fun doing the busywork for DressMonkey. Every time I work on something, whether it is doing



The well-dressed Trinity alums show off their new fashion line, Dress Monkey.

Photoshop at midnight or riding the filthiest trains imaginable to get out to our factory on a day where I forgot to buy the premium train tickets, I do it all with a smile on my face, a real smile," Dale said.

The rock-bottom prices for luxury materials are easily explained by the fact that everything is "Made in China," though DressMonkey had a difficult time trying to convince anyone to produce small quantities of this-and-that. "Chinese factories produce 1,000 of this, 10,000 of that, and 99 percent of the factories I visited wouldn't have talked to me, except for the fact that I was a white guy who could speak decent Chinese. I think it was more of a novelty for some of their sales reps to talk to me, so they looked important to their colleagues or something. We started small, then moved to a new factory after searching high and low for a factory which could theoretically adapt to our high quality standards and customized ordering process," commented Dale on the wholesale nature of Chinese production.

But why China? Why Shanghai, in particular? As of late, there seems to be a trend of graduates moving eastward. The appeal of China's booming economy (as well as entrepreneurial potential) tends to draw in more grads New York's to experience city life. "I grew up in Hartford and then went to college there, and came down with cabin fever my sophomore year and decided to venture out and try something different. I actually was going to study Arabic or Japanese, but settled on Chinese sort of ran-

domly. I just wanted to try something new and different," said Dale, "Shanghai is the place in Asia. It has changed three times over in the past four years I've been here. The entire world is focusing on China, and China is focusing on Shanghai. It is crazy, the amount of happenings in this city that are just inspiring and gripping. I thought New York was full of action. This place has a new subway line every month, it seems, and there are tons of interesting people here to share the experiences with."

Being an ex-pat certainly has its perks. Living in Shanghai, or China in general, as a "foreigner" is an entirely different experience, as Dale noted humorously, "Well, the cheap labor isn't so bad, but also, the fact that I can get out and see some interesting stuff pretty easily. Shanghai is getting too full of ex-pats, so any time I want to feel special, I just head out to the factory, and while en route, I have someone random come up and ask to take their picture with me,

"We work quite slowly at DM. We want to get good at our very complicated products, then move on to new ones."

Coley Dale '03

every time. Just kidding, sort of. I suppose I like it here because I have a great network that loves to party and are really plugged into the scene here. Having friends as chefs, food critics, journalists, and corporate lackeys gives you a variety of options on a Saturday night."

The novelty of the situation can certainly abate, and the obscenely industrial city of Shanghai can wear you out rather quickly. "I certainly miss the Trinity campus quite a bit. I was back for Homecoming last year, and that was quite a treat," relished Dale. "Shanghai isn't exactly the

Top 5

Possible Spring Break Entertainers

5. Barry Manilow. Hartford could be the hottest spot north of Havana, where (bad) music and passion are always in fashion. Music to match the age most Trinity students dress.

4. Snoop Dogg ("for all my doggs keepin' y'all in health, just to see you smile and enjoy yourself ..."), Though his softened image on "Father Hood" may not mesh with the tough Trin crowd.

3. The Fingerblasters (a group of Rock Band enthusiasts endorsed by Trin's Prez).

2. Plain White Ts. If ABC Family's "Greek" is any indication, it seems they have nothing better to do than play at no-name colleges.

1. Jimmy Jones Beatboxing. 'Nuf said.

most natural place and to see so much green grass and giant elm trees was a little strange for me after a 22-hour travel." To miss Trinity's Quadrangle is one thing, but to miss Hartford as a city is an entirely different issue. Dale joked that "the gunshots on Park Street" make him homesick, but that he definitely misses his family. "My family was always near, in Bloomfield. I remember going home every so often and having a nice home-cooked Sunday dinner on a random weekend. I would kill to go back with such ease now, but my calling is here in Shanghai, God, that sounded weird, but its true ..."

Getting back to business, literally, DressMonkey is quite the fledgling company. Born in October of 2005, Dale and Horowitz brainstormed the idea of custom, luxury (but ridiculously cheap) blazers. It's safe to say the men have all their bases covered, should your poison be linen, seersucker, or wool. Coley claims he is a "tweed guy" himself, but that, "our new wools are light and perfect for the summer. I think I'll be phasing those in pretty soon." Currently, there are plans in the works for a women's line, but don't hold

your breath, "Not until the fall, at the earliest. We're now working on launching suits for men (pants to complement the blazers). We work quite slowly at DM. We want to get good at our very complicated products, then move on to new ones ... I do envision us coming out with at least a few prototypes by the end of '08." Alas, J. Crew will have to suffice for now, but I will be waiting patiently for the chance to order my own custom blazer (with Trinity insignia emblazoned on the lining, of course.)

Coley's parting words of advice, though, hold true for many at Trinity, who seem to be on a one-track road to the corporate (read: cubicle) world. "I suppose one thing I'd like to impart on anyone looking to either start their own business or do some intense travel: do it. Life is too short to have regrets like that, just go for it and don't look back. Was that cheesy enough? I don't mean it to be. I just wish someone would have told me that when I was sitting in Jarvis trying to make up my mind about taking Chinese or being just another boring Econ major."

Well then, the Registrar and I have a date.

Around Trinity

Loud Late Night Lady: Put a Muzzle On It

While trying to sleep, AT heard the obnoxious yelling, and, at times, singing of a junior girl in the quad between Jones and Elton. When asked to please keep it down, the girl responded with, "NO! We're going to watch the sun rise." Next time, have some manners and lay off the coke.

Boys Dress to the Nines: This Is Not a Pledge Task

AT was attending a bday bash at a frat when a group of male pledges came in dressed to the nines ... in freshly bought Walmart dresses and fishnet tights. Best part? This was no pledge task. The boys dressed in drag completely by choice.

"Roofie" Coladas: Everyone's Fave Beverage

At the same frat, a cooler labeled "roofie" coladas offered. Sounds yummy ... As long as you don't mind waking up in a gutter. Or worse yet, in mid-spoon with a boy whose name you've forgotten. Or more likely, never knew. AT votes, roofies are for boys with no game.

Don't Forget to Take Out the Trash

Friday night, while leaving a party, AT spotted a girl passed out on top of a trash can at a fraternity ... A fraternity trash can? I can only imagine the contents. That must have been a lovely sight (and smell) to wake up to. She was promptly taken out with the trash.

Diserens Discusses New Class, Campus Climate with Dean Dow

continued from page 14

tored by good bosses. As a result, I have had a broader education than one might expect from someone being at one institution the whole time. I think it's fair to say that Trinity students are far more attuned to what this institution can do and will do and what Hartford can do and will do. There is still a long way to go, but when I was here, Hartford was woefully underused. I think [Trinity] has taken on a lot of strengths over the years, but we still bite off a lot for ourselves, given our financial resources. I think we are still challenged to have the socio-economic, curricular and ethnic mix that we want. There has been a lot of real progress, but there certainly is a lot still to happen. One of the greatest challenges that remains is the homophobic element of the climate. Progress still has been made there in terms of tolerance and students with different orientations feeling that they can make a life here.

Carver: Acceptance letters just went out. Granted, we don't know whom will choose to enroll, but preliminarily, what kind of class are we looking at for next year?

Larry: When you're dealing with the scale we're dealing with, you can't really point out anything unique about a given class. However, now that we have added this essay question, the awareness of what might be on the mind of the Trinity community is a little sharper.

Carver: In terms of numbers, what is the best news coming from the most recent applicant pool?

Larry: Again, about this particular applicant pool, there isn't anything specifically unique. We are into this range of, let's say 5,000 applicants from about 2,000 high schools. This is a statistic that I enjoy thinking about. To think that Trinity College in Hartford Connecticut is able to attract at least one student from 2000 different schools in the world, it's very encouraging.

Carver: Going into an application process, do you have some type of quota or at least some semblance of an idea of what you would like the class to look like, and if so, how strictly does it end up getting followed? For example, do you say that we need to take x number of athletes and y number of students from the Midwest?

Larry: Athletics are actually a little bit more finite than other things you alluded to. All the NESCAC schools have created some idea of how we want to allow athletics to play a role in the admissions process, which includes having a handle on quantity. The trick is, with human beings, defining whom is to be called an athlete and who isn't. Other demographics are not as systematic, because we don't interact with other institutions in the same way. Most of what we do is based on what we believe to be a consensus of the Trinity community, and sometimes, we do try to serve specific constituencies. We are trying to sustain Trinity as a national or even international college, let's say primarily a national small college. So we don't set out trying to penalize kids

from Connecticut, but when you start to pay attention to students coming from other parts of the country, they get some extra notice. When you admit someone, you are taking a spot from someone else, no matter how you look at it. Paying attention to a student from Washington or Mississippi, if they seem viable and attractive in all the regular ways, but we'd like to continue our representation there, may mean that another student from Massachusetts gets pushed aside a bit.

Carver: You mentioned athletics—can you explain how slotting for athletes works?

Larry: Without overreacting, we are careful not to use the word slotting publicly, because it isn't true slotting. It has become shorthand because it is sort of like slotting so people use it. It is an important distinction because it refers to a coaches' ability to fill a slot, and no NESCAC school allows that. NESCAC schools have tried, in good faith, to determine when athletic talents are viewed as essentially an important part of what the candidate brings. We attach a quantity of admissions decisions that we will allow to be effected by that athletic factor. It's maybe a cap of somewhere between 60-80, and no more students who will have their admission decision significantly affected.

Carver: Do you find it to be a vicious cycle at times, when the school was being publicly criticized for a lack of diversity? Opening ourselves up to a more diverse group of students typically means that more financial aid (which strains the endowment) and perhaps academic standards may be lowered in the interest of diversity, but then we fall in the rankings, and people are all of a sudden publicly criticizing the school for falling in the rankings?

Larry: I think there is an assumption in there that needs to be clarified. Let's look at the financial aid picture from the other side. That is to say, whatever we think we can spend on financial aid, we are also saying we need a certain number of kids who can

pay the full bill. So, if we determine that our budget can sustain 35 percent on financial aid, well, the second half of that is we need 65 percent of the students who are able to pay \$50,000 a year. So if two thirds of the class have to pay the bill, and your applicant pool is made up predominantly of American students who cannot afford \$50,000 a year, might we wonder that if any standards are being

shifted, it's to continue to draw heavily from a smaller pool of full payers, who have to represent 65 percent of the Trinity class. So, the question might be, "How much are we lowering standards, to get the payers we need?" I'll leave that as a question.

Carver: What routinely is the hardest question you have to answer from prospective students?

Larry: It's not a controversial question, frankly, because over time, you find a way to answer controversial questions in a way that is honest and educating. If you get questions about crime or drinking on campus, I think all of them, if answered thoughtfully

and honestly, do not become misrepresentations. The toughest question is something more like "What is it that makes a Trinity student a Trinity student?" On the one hand, it might seem unfair, because you're all different, but how do you make a choice among, let's say, 20 small colleges, if someone can't help you, whether there's a difference between attending Trinity or BC or Tufts or Amherst or whatever? So, you are trying to find those traits that really do

speak to something about the Trinity experience that is common among quiet people, loud people, athletes, artists ... what is it? I think we have arrived at some reasonable answers. Trinity students do prove that they tend to be students who take initiative, they explore a lot of new things, they come out well-equipped for a wide range of professions. Students have been in a very broad social climate and interact with each other a lot.

Carver: How have the presidential scholarships affected our applicant pool?

Larry: Excellent question. They are not really affecting the applicant pool primarily. They are affecting the class more than they are affecting the applicant pool. They are so selective

"It has been a privilege to get involved in the process that has to do with the true lifeblood of the college. To be involved with people when they are making decisions, dealing with family dynamics, it gives any admissions officer a real glimpse at the way people work."

Larry Dow
Dean of Admissions and
Financial Aid

that we really think of it as more of a way to attract students who are in the pool, with the strongest academic credentials, but they are few enough that I don't think we're ready yet to promote it as an enticement to join our applicant pool.

Carver: What about our partnership with QuestBridge scholars?

Larry: We have worked with QuestBridge for a number of years. QuestBridge seeks to identify extraordinary students from all over the country that might not have adequate channels of access. I think this year we will have seven to ten QuestBridge scholars who are in their own right extraordinary and will be receiving full cost

of attendance, larger prizes if you will, than the presidentials.

Carver: Do you have any final message that you would like to share with the Trinity community?

Larry: Without getting too cheesy, it has been a privilege to get involved in the process that has to do with the true lifeblood of the college. To be involved with people when they are making decisions, dealing with family dynamics, it gives any admissions officer a real glimpse at the way people work, the way families work and the way education works. It has been an amazing perspective, dealing with a very full cross-section of students.

Send suggestions for interviewees to robert.diserens@trincoll.edu.

Effects of Marijuana On the Body Not Terribly Dangerous

continued from page 14

part of your brain that regulates food intake (cannabinoids regulate hunger).

Marijuana is not known to be physically addictive, but it can definitely be psychologically addictive. Although the effects of marijuana usually leave the body within a few hours, traces THC are not completely gone. After smoking, the marijuana is stored in body fat. THC stays in detectable urine for a few days, or for a few weeks in heavy users. It takes over a month for THC to go undetected in the blood, and just stays put in the hair!

What is 4:20? No one really knows, but it has become an international symbol of marijuana culture. Some people believe it's the best time of the day to smoke, or the experience can be appreciated more if one waits until 4:20 in the afternoon. Another rumor is that it's the best day to plant marijuana seeds in the spring. There is no police code for 420, and there never has been. To end this on a "high" note, April 20 was also Hitler's birthday, as well as the day of Columbine Massacre.

Some say the Chinese were using cannabis seeds for food as early as 6000 B.C. and by 4000 B.C., they were known to use the cannabis plant to produce fibers for clothing. The first recorded medical use of marijuana was in China, 2737 B.C. Jamestown, Virginia in 1619 passed a law that required farmers to grow hemp, and in the 1700s, even Thomas Jefferson and George Washington grew hemp at Monticello

and Mt. Vernon, respectively. The first anti-marijuana law was passed in Utah in 1915, because too many Mormons were using it, and in Utah the church had influence on the state. In 1937, Cannabis was made illegal in the U.S., with the Marijuana Tax Act, even though the American Medical Association advised otherwise. The laws kept getting harsher. Ironically, marijuana became illegal just after alcohol became legal again after prohibition. In Connecticut in 2007, there was a proposed bill that would allow use of medical marijuana to relieve sick patients (at the recommendation of doctors) but it was vetoed by Governor Jodi Rell.

Marijuana helps with nausea, stress, anxiety, arthritis, HIV/AIDS, Parkinson's, glaucoma, and other painful illnesses. In fact, it is one of the most effective pain relievers because it does not cause a lot of unnatural side effects. What's more, hemp is used to make textiles, insulation materials, papers, and even composites for cars.

After all, it is certainly a peaceful, nonviolent drug that has been grouped with more dangerous drugs like cocaine and heroin. In fact, no deaths have ever occurred directly from this multi-functional plant.

I certainly do not advocate smoking marijuana. Moreover, possessing this stuff on Trinity campus will get you in serious trouble with the Campo.

Please send any questions to anne.benjamin@trincoll.edu.

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Must purchase 3 pizzas

Choice 4*
Small (12")
1 topping Pizza
2 cans of soda
\$8.99 +tax

Choice 5*
8" Sub
10pc. Buffalo Wings
2 cans soda
\$10.99 +tax

Choice 6*
8" Grinder
\$6.99 +tax
12" Grinder
\$8.99 +tax
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2 liter soda
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Pepperoni, Sausage, Onion, Green Peppers, Mushrooms & Beef				
• Veggie Choice	\$10.99	\$14.99	\$17.99	\$28.99
Fresh Tomatoes, Black Olives, Onion, Green Peppers & Mushrooms				
• White Veggie Choice	\$10.99	\$14.99	\$17.99	\$27.99
Fresh Tomatoes, Olive Oil, Garlic, Ricotta, Mozzarella, & Spinach				
• Chicken Choice	\$11.99	\$15.99	\$18.99	\$28.99
Seasoned, Lightly Spiced Chicken with Fresh Tomatoes, Spinach, & Extra Cheese				
• Hawaiian Pizza	\$10.99	\$13.99	\$16.99	\$25.99
Ham, Pineapple & Extra Cheese				
• Super Choice Combo	\$12.99	\$16.99	\$19.99	\$29.99
Chicken Peppers, Onion, Ham, Beef, Black Olive, Pepperoni, Sausage, Bacon & Mushrooms				
• Ranch Chicken Choice	\$11.99	\$15.99	\$18.99	\$28.99
Grilled seasoned chicken, Garlic and Fresh Tomatoes with Ranch Sauce				
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Boneless Buffalo Wings

5 pc \$5.99

10 pc \$9.99

15 pc \$13.99

20 pc \$17.99

10 pc \$ 6.50

20 pc \$11.50

30 pc \$16.75

40 pc \$21.50

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with Meatball, Sausage or Shrimp \$8.50

Ravioli, Meat or Cheese \$7.50

Manicotti \$7.50

Lasagna \$8.00

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Veal Parmesan with Spaghetti or Ziti \$8.50

Eggplant Parmesan with Spaghetti or Ziti \$7.50

Seafood

(Served with Salad, Garlic Bread & French Fries)

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Fried Clams \$8.00

Fried Shrimp \$8.00

Fried Scallops \$8.00

Seafood Platter \$11.00

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Grilled Cheese \$2.50

Ham \$5.00

Turkey \$5.00

Tuna \$5.00

Chicken \$5.00

Served with Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Mayo and French Fries

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Grilled Chicken \$5.50 \$7.75

Buffalo Chicken \$5.50 \$7.75

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Honey Citrus Chicken \$5.50 \$7.75

Chef \$5.50 \$7.75

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Chocolate Cake \$2.99

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Calzone \$7.50

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ARTS

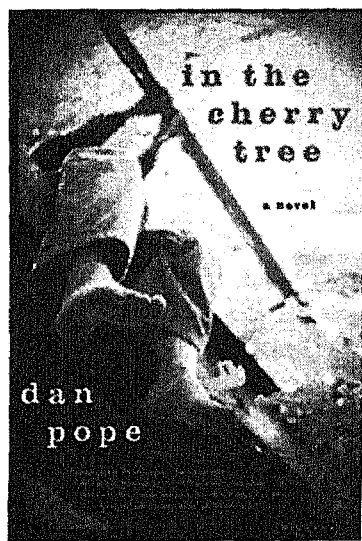
The Trinity Tripod

Pope Reads to Audience with Humor, Enthusiasm

MIKE ROBINSON
SENIOR EDITOR

It was clear immediately that visiting writer Dan Pope's reading at the Smith House on Wednesday, Apr. 2, was going to have a light, easygoing tone. Pope, who serves on the Trinity faculty and wrote the critically acclaimed novel *In the Cherry Tree*, was quick to joke with the crowd on just about everything he spoke about. It was no surprise that his easygoing demeanor and sense of humor was apparent in the work he read as well. Mixing his sharp wit and seemingly limitless knowledge of '70s pop culture, Pope put on an entertaining show.

He started by reading from *In the Cherry Tree*, which centers on a young boy, Timmy, and his life in the suburbs during the '70s. The excerpt he read found Timmy and his father, referred to as "The Dad," trying to smoke out a groundhog



www.danpope.com

Pope read from his acclaimed novel.

in the back yard. The success of the writing is in the dialogue and actions of the characters, who are brought to life with humorous dialogue and mannerisms. When the mother and father fight, it is funny, but also genuine.

In Timmy, Pope manages

see BEAUTIFUL on page 16

What to Watch Weekly: TV is Back

PRIYANKA JOTWANI
ARTS WRITER

With the writers' strike this past year, it feels like we've had an extra set of season finales and premieres. Needless to say, the television hiatus since last fall has been as long as the summer break for most shows. Luckily, all order will be restored in the next few weeks as favorites such as "Grey's Anatomy," "Gossip Girl," and "Lost" return. Unfortunately, the return of some shows such as "Private Practice" and "Heroes" has been postponed until the fall. Let's take a look at when favorites will be returning, and the latest news on them.

"Grey's Anatomy"

With the show being one of the most heavily anticipated returns of the season, "Grey's Anatomy" will begin airing five new episodes on Thursday, Apr. 24.

When we last saw the

series, the Meredith-Derek-Rose love triangle was steaming up while the Gizzie romance was fizzling out. Mark your calendars every-one, Kate Walsh returns to Seattle Grace (temporarily) on Thursday, May 1! This is sure to bring the original spark of the show back, and will probably be one of the best episodes of the season. Let's face it, Kate Walsh makes everything better. Also, Gizzie will officially be over in the next few episodes.

With the show being one of the most heavily anticipated returns of the season, "Grey's Anatomy" will begin airing five new episodes on Thursday, Apr. 24.

ic reason has been cited for this shocking development, but in a letter to the press Gough and Millar stated, "We are incredibly proud of our work on this show. We achieved what we set out to do. We never compromised our vision."

Although there is speculation of creative differences

"Smallville"

After seven seasons, show creators Al Gough and Miles Millar are leaving the series. No specific



bauergriffinonline.com

Blake Lively and Penn Badgley are back on audience fave, "Gossip Girl."

with the CW being the reason for their departure, nothing has been confirmed yet. "Smallville" will continue into Season Eight this fall without the duo. New post-strike episodes begin to air on Thursday, Apr. 17, when a character who has never been assumed dead (as most of the characters on the show have), will die.

"Gossip Girl"

The breakout series returns on Monday, Apr. 21

see PASS on page 16

Two Decades Later, Reminiscing on a Great Era in Music History

SARA YOO
SENIOR EDITOR

If you know anything about me, then you know I spend most of my time whining about how I was born in the wrong decade. I harbor extreme envy for my older sister, a veritable '80s kid who owns an extensive collection of New Order and Depeche Mode vinyls, B-sides and all. I listen to *Purple Rain* ad nauseam. Most importantly, I get into heated arguments with anyone who dares to say that the '80s was a bad time for music.

The '80s gets a bad rep thanks to mullets and people who think Poison was a legitimate band, but the music was more than ubiquitous synthesizers and drum machines. Sure, there was too much arena rock, too much hair metal, and enough bad pop to last a lifetime. What was bad was excruciatingly so, and it's easy to forget the good. For me, however, the '80s was the high point of music to date—the best of what was, is, and perhaps ever could be. It's a strong statement, but I stand by it.

Let's begin by looking to our UK neighbors—a beacon of cool in a sea of stadium rock sameness. Northern England indie outfit The Smiths broke away from the synth-heavy sounds dominating the music scene to become one of the most influential artists with albums like *The Queen is Dead* (1986). The Jesus and Mary Chain redefined noise with the feedback-heavy

Psychocandy (1984), spawning a legion of other shoegazer bands into the early '90s, like My Bloody Valentine. No discussion on the '80s Brit music scene is complete without an obligatory mention of Depeche Mode and New Order (my sister's favorites), both of whom managed to crank out club hits like "Precious" and "Blue Monday." Speaking of hits, who cares if Flock of Seagulls only had one? Fact is, "I Ran" makes up for all the hits the Seagulls didn't have. It's just that good. Admit it, you got excited every time it came on while playing *Grand Theft Auto: Vice City*. Finally, Kyle said it once on "South Park" and I'll say it again: The Cure's *Disintegration* (1989) really is the best album ever made.

On our side of the pond, things were equally interesting. American hardcore was still burgeoning from the late '70s, with bands such as Henry Rollins-era Black Flag releasing controversial albums like *Damaged* (1981) and the Dead Kennedys releasing lyrically provocative singles like "Holiday in Cambodia." Under the hairspray smog of Poison and Bon Jovi, the American indie underground proliferated in the '80s—Husker Du put out *Zen Arcade* in 1984, the same year the Replacements released *Let it Be*, (which has a completely underrated cover of KISS's "Black Diamond"). The two Minneapolis-based bands proved that Prince wasn't the only sensation to emerge from Minnesota. And as much as I

REAL MEN WEAR MAKEUP: A Look at '80s Androgyny



Do Above: Robert Smith's (center) look is so wrong, it's right, though bassist Simon Gallup (second right) gives him a run for his hairspray. Eccentric musical genius Prince (far right) is a style icon for both men and women.



DON'T



Left: Matching mall-rat hair will not add to your credibility, even if your band name is Poison. Above: If you are a hairdresser by profession, like Flock of Seagulls' vocalist Mike Score, you'll at least have a job when your music career fails.

am averse to so-called stadium rock, I'm not going to argue the fact that Bruce Springsteen, Bon Jovi, and Guns 'n Roses were crowd-pleasers on a grand scale, selling out everywhere and contributing to the general spirit of the '80s.

Is it possible to miss something you were never really a part of? I was born in 1986, which makes me a little resentful that I was watching "Barney" while my sister was cutting school to buy The Beastie Boys'

Licensed to Ill. Some people like to think that we identify most with the musical decade of our youth. Obviously, I do have brief flirtations with major artists of the 2000s, but no amount of The Strokes, The White Stripes, or Interpol could ever replace my loyalty to the music of that one glorious decade.

Guitar Hero has a video game solely dedicated to the music of the '80s. Every year, we put on the legwarmers and

tease our hair sky high to celebrate a decade in which we spent most of our time swathed in diapers. Why? Because there's something undeniably alluring about the kitsch, the craziness, and the excess that was the '80s. People were more creative and experimental back then, which made things, including music, a lot more fun. So, while I can't go back in time, I still have *The Wedding Singer* and my tickets to see The Cure this summer to comfort me.

Sophomore Phinney to Perform Organ Concert

ELIZABETH AGRESTA
ARTS EDITOR

The Trinity Chapel will continue its organ series on the night of Friday, Apr. 11, with a concert by Matt Phinney '10. Phinney, the Chapel's assistant organist (organist Christopher Houlihan '09 is abroad this year), is a student of John Rose, the Director of both Chapel Music and the Chapel Singers.

The 75-minute set includes works by four composers, the first being *Passacaglia and Fugue in C minor* by J.S. Bach (1685-1750). Phinney will then play *Sonata Nr. 2* by Paul Hindemith (1895-1963), which has three movements: *Lebhaft*, *Ruhig Bewegt*, and *Fugue*. The next piece, Bach's *Trio Sonata VI*, also has three movements: *Vivace*, *Lento*, and *Allegro*. Phinney's next selection is Louis Vierne's (1870-1937) *Berceuse*. Vierne was known for his improvisation skills and was a student of César Franck (1822-1890), the composer of the final piece

for the evening, *Chorale in A minor* from *Trois Chorales*. Phinney's set is essentially equally divided between French and German composers. Franck was a huge influence on Vierne, so look for similarities in their work. The German composers, Hindemith and Bach, but

As a student of John Rose and playing a concert as part of the Trinity College Organ Series is proof enough that Phinney is an excellent organist.



Courtesy of Matt Phinney
Matt Phinney '10 will play on Friday.

Bach particularly, are noted for their important contributions to music using contrapuntal technique (that is, music with two or more rhythmically independent, harmonically interdependent voices).

Put simply, these are not easy pieces to play. As a student of John Rose and playing a concert as part of the Trinity College Organ Series is proof enough that Phinney is an excellent organist and that this concert is not one you want to miss. Phinney's concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Trinity College Chapel. Come prepared to hear some wonderful, compelling music from Phinney.

Hadaway's Thesis Illustrates Passion

BRAD DeBIASE
ARTS WRITER

On Tuesday, Apr. 1, audience members filed into the Performance Lab in Trinity Commons for *All Ah We Is One*, Yasmeen Hadaway's senior thesis. Hadaway, a prominent figure in the theater and dance community on campus, worked for months on what would become the six dance pieces for her senior thesis. The culmination of these efforts came to life in front of an audience last week, and received rave reviews. The dance show took the audience through a cultural journey that shed light on a variety of Island traditions accented by the bright colors and upbeat tempos commonly associated with the Caribbean.

The first dance of the show, titled "Discovery," was a cross-cultural, soulful ballad of exploration showcasing Indian and Trinidadian traditions. Set to the song "Living Darfur" by Mattafix, Hadaway's first dance displayed her modern choreography, contrasted by small ensembles performing Caribbean and Indian dancing on either side of her. The song began the journey through Hadaway's recollection of becoming a dancer and choreographer, and set the tone for the rest of the piece by introducing several different cultural styles of dance.

Following the Caribbean theme, the show transitioned to the slow, elegant "Grande Bele." The Grande Bele is a social folk dance done at feasts associated with fertility. It is derived from the French Minuet and is danced

in African/French traditions of the Caribbean. The dance featured Sade Lake '10, Courtney Drakes '09 and Stephanie Irizarry '10 who utilized their long split dresses to create large, ceremonial motions as they welcomed their 'queen,' Hadaway, to 'the feast.' The steady drum beat and synchronized movements created a quiet, intense dance piece that captivated the audiences with the simplistic yet graceful choreography.

Hadaway's third piece, a Chutney-inspired dance to the song "Aur Chale," was an Indian-infused trio of dancers, Mary Ebraheem '09, Jaynie Murrell '11, and Dayo Oyedele '11, in an upbeat number that expressed the liveliness and exuberance of Indian culture. Chutney is the current popular dance and music of the Trinidadians and Guyanese. The dance may incorporate Indian hand gestures or other Indian or Middle Eastern influences of choreography. It can be danced to soca music, or the hybrid Chutney-soca played on North Indian instruments. Each of the three dancers was dressed in a distinctive color to give each girl her own character, and they worked well together, executing tight formations and spacing that created interesting visuals onstage.

Hadaway's fourth piece, previewed in this semester's Spring Dance Concert, was a fast-paced Calypso dance. Calypso is an upbeat dance performed to taped soca

music. The costumes are usually colorful (as they were here), and consist of full floor-length skirts, tank tops and head wraps. This piece highlighted intricate movements and several different formations that showed how diverse and exact Hadaway is in her choreography. The dance was incredibly well received after its first performance, and received just as much applause in its valiant return in last Tuesday's dance show.

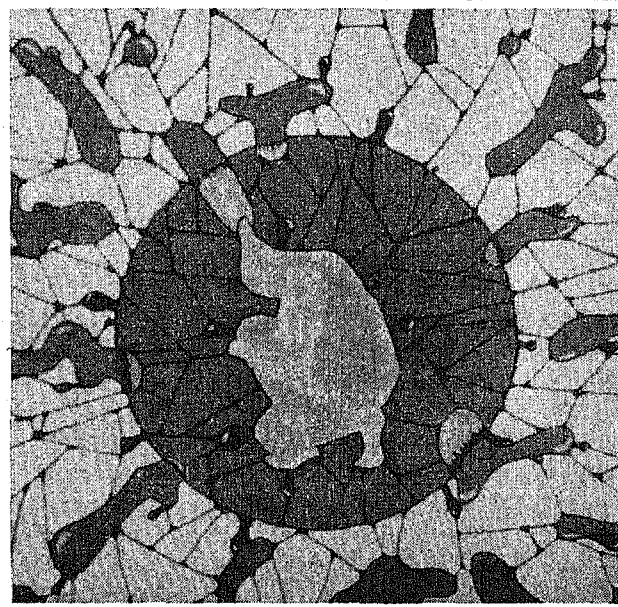
Audience members then had a chance to participate in the performance in the ceremonial "Limbo" dance.

The intense beats and energetic sounds of Machel Montano's "Blazin' D Trail" pumped throughout the Performance Lab and had audience members dancing in their seats during this vibrant group number.

Audience members then had a chance to participate in the performance in the ceremonial "Limbo" dance. In the Caribbean, the "Limbo" is a competitive dance usually seen at walking ceremonies for the dead, passed to the realm of entertainment. Live drums, audience participation, and group choreography provided for a fun and upbeat dance that had the whole audience clapping. Hadaway, among other dancers, helped lead a handful of audience members under the limbo bar. Soon after, however, the bar began to lower, and the piece ended upon Irizarry clearing a dramatically low limbo bar, arching her back at a seemingly painful angle, but effortlessly passing under nonetheless.

see VARIED on page 16

Ukrainian National Home, Hartford, Shows Art: A Photo Collage



Artwork featured at the show by, clockwise from top left: Natasha Sazonova, Oksana Korolchyk, Andriy Khomyk, Andriy Fylypiv, Zenyk Bulavko, and Ivan Mitsyk. All photos courtesy of www.holodomorct.org.

Beautiful Writing Shows During Unique Reading

continued from page 14

to capture the tone and personality of a child very well, and he shared his secret with the audience when he pulled out a "Page-A-Day Diary" that he had kept since his adolescence. The diary contained several hilarious entries, mus- ing on music, television, movies, and other facets of his life at the time. Pope said he used this diary as the basis for a short story which eventually turned into the novel. Addressing the autobiographical nature of the novel, Pope said, "I used to tell people I don't write autobiogra- phy, and then I realized, why shouldn't I?"

Pope then read one of his published short stories, "Drive In." The story tells the tale of three teenagers who go to a drive-in X-rated movie. Again, Pope is able to capture the voice of the three kids almost perfectly, and when one of them hilariously "creams his pants," it's hard not to laugh even while sympathizing with him.

The same strengths were

present in the final bit of read- ing he did from his forthcom- ing novel. The scene he chose presents the main character, an old man named Leonard, out on a date with a younger widow named Terry. Terry has a bit too much to drink during dinner, and her drunken antics and Leonard's respons- es drew a lot of laughs. Still, even among all the jokes and humor, Pope manages to maintain a level of serious- ness for his char- acters. Even while Terry is spilling all over herself, there is a poignant conver- sation about the loss of her hus- band. Little touches of gravi- ty like this make Pope's work stand above a simple satire of suburban life.

Little touches of gravity like this make Pope's work stand above a simple satire of suburban life.

Pope's work stand above a simple satire of suburban life.

Pope is currently working on a historical book about the Pope family in Hartford. In it, he plans to have the famous Pope family's story run paral- lel to that of a middle class family of the same name. Given the quality of his previ- ous work, it's probable that there will be some moments of great impact to go along with all the laughs.

Varied Thesis Showcases Many Cultural Aspects

continued from page 15

less.

The show came to a close with the steel-drum medley "Pan in A Minor," which rein- corporated choreography and movements from the previous five dances, including the Bele, Calypso, and Chutney.

The whole cast participated in this dance, as individual dancers dashed onstage to per- form short duets with Hadaway, who remained center stage throughout. As the song cli- maxed, all dancers returned to the stage for a multicultur- al collaboration of dances that brought together all aspects of Hadaway's choreography. As the steel drums tapered off, Hadaway continued dancing and struck one final pose to bring *All Ah We Is One* to a close. The overwhelming applause and accolades ensured both the enthusiastic audience and performers that Hadaway's show was a bona- fide success.

Having performed in the show, it is additionally rewarding being able to spread the word of what a

great artistic process it was. Hadaway is not only an immensely talented choreog- rapher, but is a joy to work with as a dancer, and takes into consideration her dancer's needs and wishes. She expressed on several occa- sions how happy she was with the way she saw her dances

The overall high energy and dynamic beats of the show made it a fun and enjoy- able performance for both the dancers and audi- ence members.

evolving and coming to life. In the dress- ing room before the show, the cast cir- cled up for a final energy booster and pep talk. There, Hadaway told the ensemble, "At this point, it is just as much for you guys as it is for me, so just go out there and have fun!" And that

we did. The overall high energy and dynamic beats of the show made it a fun and enjoy- able performance for both the dancers and audience mem- bers. Being the capstone of her Trinity education, *All Ah We Is One* was equally as per- sonal a project for Hadaway as it was academic, demonstrat- ing the pride she takes in her Caribbean heritage. A visual and musical celebration of cul- ture, this dance was one that audiences will not soon forget, and a project that Hadaway will surely smile back on for many years to come.

Pass the Remote, Favorite Shows Back

continued from page 15

with five brand new episodes. The show has already been renewed for a second season, despite rumors of it being in trouble. Some rumors that are circling on the plot line, however, are looking to be true. When "Gossip Girl" comes back, in the next two episodes a character will be coming out of the closet and getting a new love interest. We will also discover that there is another reason why Serena left, besides the fact that she slept with Nate.

Official Return Schedule:

ABC: "Lost," "Ugly Betty," and "Grey's Anatomy" all return on Thursday, Apr. 24, with five new episodes each. "Brothers & Sisters" will be returning with four new episodes on Sunday, Apr. 20. "Desperate Housewives" returns Sunday, Apr. 13, with six new episodes.

NBC: "The Office" and "30 Rock" return on Thursday, Apr. 10, with six and five new episodes, respectively. "Scrubs" also returns on Thursday, Apr. 10, but the amount of episodes may be anywhere between five and nine as producers are not sure how many of the final episodes

will go straight to DVD. "ER" returns Thursday, Apr. 10, with six new episodes. "Law & Order: SVU" returns on Tuesday, Apr. 15, with five new episodes. "My Name is Earl" returns on Thursday, Apr. 3, with nine new episodes and highly anticipated special guest stars Alyssa Milano and Paris Hilton.

Fox: "House" returns on Monday, Apr. 28 with four new episodes. "Bones" returns on Monday, Apr. 14 with six new episodes. Season Seven of "24" is officially postponed until January 2009. You won't be completely "24"-less until January, however: a two-hour TV movie connecting Seasons Six and Seven will be airing in the fall.

The CW: "One Tree Hill" returns on Monday, Apr. 14 with six fresh new episodes.

Fan favorite "Gossip Girl" returns on Monday, Apr. 21 with five new episodes. The classic show "Smallville" returns on Thursday, Apr. 17 with five new episodes. "Supernatural" will return a week later, on Thursday, Apr. 24, with four brand-new episodes. "Aliens in America" returns on Sunday, Apr. 27 with three new episodes. "Reaper" returns on Tuesday, Apr. 22 with five new episodes.

Returning in the Fall: "Pushing Daisies," "Heroes," "Private Practice," "Chuck," and "Dirty Sexy Money."

Cancelled Series: "Big Shots," "Bionic Woman," "Life is Wild," and "Las Vegas."

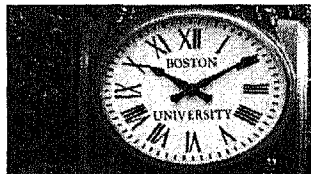
Uncertain Future: "October Road" and "Prison Break."



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Double Coverage: Fans Come to Grips with Legend's Retirement

GREG AMARRA and SHAH MOMIN
SPORTS WRITERS

Mr. Rodgers' Neighborhood

After one of the most successful seasons of his career, Brett Favre called it quits by announcing his retirement from the NFL on March 4, 2008, in what was a very emotional press conference. Recently, rumors have begun to circulate regarding a potential comeback by Favre. Did the future first-ballot Hall of Famer make the right decision in retiring or should he have continued to play for an 18th season?

Shah: As an avid fan of football, and sports in general, I was extremely disappointed that Favre decided to retire. In every sport, there are certain players whom everyone roots for, even if they play for the other team. I believe it's safe to say that Brett Favre is one of those players.

Greg: If you dislike Brett Favre, you have no soul. Honestly, there will be Chicago Bears fans who will miss Favre's presence on the field. He offered so much to the game of football: excitement, dedication, and leadership (to name a few). Never has one player been the face of a franchise to the extent that Favre has been to the Packers. His name is synonymous with Green Bay and his absence will be felt. In fact, it's already being felt. Favre's popularity extended beyond the football realm; he was seen by companies as an effective way to market the durability of their products, seeing as the man holds the record for consecutive starts by a quarterback. By having Favre endorse products such as Wrangler jeans and Rayovac batteries (which by the way, are some of the worst batteries ever and should not be associated with Favre), companies extend their target market by incorporating anybody who has even heard of Favre's name. The American public not only wants to buy these goods because of their durability, but also because a recognizable face says that the product is decent. Other than the likes of Michael Jordan, Tiger Woods, and Mr. Marketing himself, Peyton Manning, no other athlete has that much marketing power.

Shah: The question that keeps coming to mind is why? Why would you retire after a season in which you were one game away from reaching the Super Bowl? Why would you let the last play of your storied career be an interception that was as bad as it was? Why would you retire

when you have just come off a season that proves that you still have what it takes to compete with the best in the league? I'm not so sure that I fully believe Favre when he says that he's had enough and that he doesn't think he can handle the pressure of another season. I feel as though these reasons are more than enough for a guy like Brett Favre to want to come back. Then again, he has accomplished everything, and I mean everything, there is to accomplish in the NFL.

Greg: I can absolutely believe that Favre is ready to leave the NFL. Why stay in the league when your desire to play the game, which includes countless hours of preparation, is gone? As you said, he has accomplished everything there is to accomplish in the NFL: three consecutive MVPs, nine Pro-Bowl selections, two Super Bowl appearances (winning Super Bowl XXXI), etc. Had Favre never won a Super Bowl, then it would make more sense for him to return for another season, but the fact of the matter is, the desire is no longer there. Take a look at Junior Seau, who is considered to be one of the greats and has never won a Super Bowl. What keeps Seau going is his desire to win a championship and revel in its glory. The disappointing showing by his team in the last Super Bowl will probably increase his chances of returning to the league. Favre has already accomplished that feat and to play the game without the same childlike enthusiasm that he has demonstrated in the past would be a disservice to his fans and more importantly, to his team.

Shah: I understand where you're coming from and believe me, it would not surprise me one bit if he were to stay retired. I'm just saying that I could easily see Brett Favre coming back in a Michael Jordan-like fashion. Jordan was in the same position as Favre in that he'd won six NBA titles, five MVPs, etc. at the time of his second retirement (in January 1999) but it just wasn't enough. Even after having the "perfect storybook ending" to his career, with his game-winning jumper against the Jazz in the 1998 NBA Finals, Jordan just couldn't stay away. That's one of the reasons for why I could see Favre coming back. I know we're talking about two different sports here, but the internal fire and passion that Favre and Jordan have is something that only a very small and select number of athletes have.

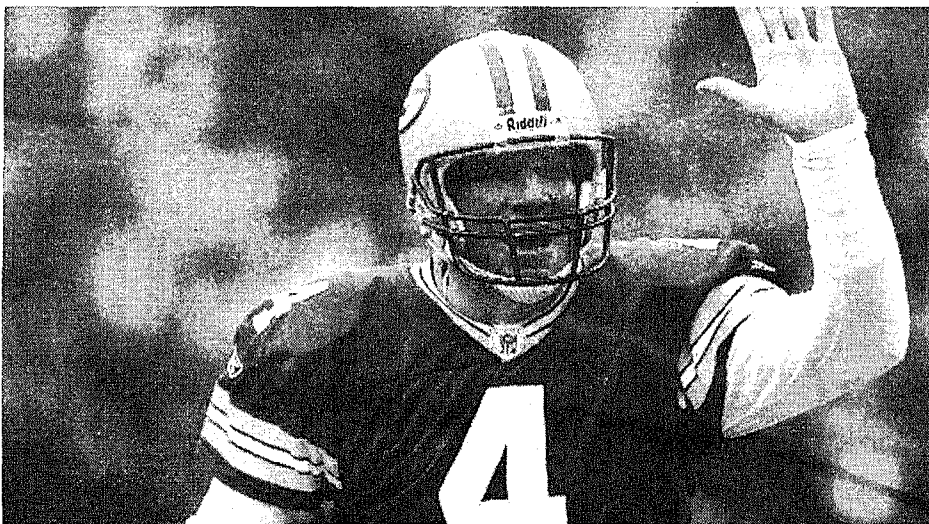
Greg: One person I pity is Aaron Rodgers, the expected starting quarterback for the Packers. The month following Favre's retirement announcement, the poor man was constantly compared to the legend and people wondered how he would respond to the pressure. Right as the Favre talks began to die down, the new rumors of a comeback have further placed Rodgers in an awkward situation, with everyone hoping and praying that Favre returns.

Shah: I could see why you feel bad for him in that regard, but look at the team he's being given (assuming Favre doesn't come back). He's got an extremely young offense, with two of the best young receivers in the NFL in Donald Driver and Greg Jennings. On top of that, he's got a running back who can shoulder a decent amount of the offensive load in Ryan Grant. The Packers have the build of a team that's going to contend in the NFC for quite some time. I'm sure it's going to be tough for Rodgers to get used

to living with the constant comparisons to Favre, but at the same time, there's a reason for why the Packers invested their first-round pick in 2005 on him. In what was basically his only real appearance of the season, Rodgers almost led his team to a comeback win against the NFC-leading Cowboys after Favre left in the second quarter with an elbow injury. If that was a sign of things to come, I think it's safe to say that the Packers are in good hands. Everything I just said makes me realize how much it wouldn't surprise me if Favre does indeed come back.

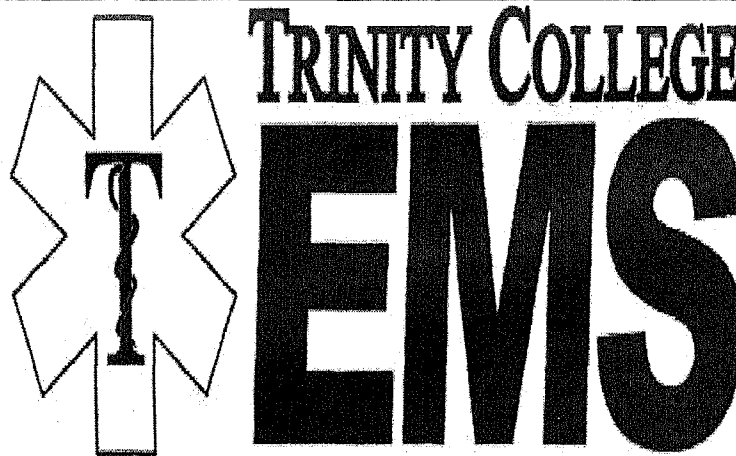
Greg: An NFL great has decided to leave the game he loves. His presence will surely be missed and his absence will not be fully realized until the new season begins. All of a sudden, I have an inexplicable urge to buy a new pair of Wranglers.

Any suggestions or future topics can be sent to either GregLorenz.Amarra@trincoll.edu or Shahtahir.Momin@trincoll.edu.



www.greenbaypackersjersey.net

On March 4, Brett Favre announced that he is finally retiring after 17 seasons with the Green Bay Packers.



Trinity College Emergency Response Team (TCERT) will hold an EMT class on campus, next semester, Fall '08, starting September 8!

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Schwarz Discusses Sports Journalism

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the newspaper. Since 1991, he had been the senior writer of *Baseball America* magazine and wrote ESPN's "2004 Baseball Book of the Year," *The Numbers Game: Baseball's Lifelong Fascination with Statistics*. He was the host of ESPN's daily podcast "Baseball Today," which iTunes named the top-rated individual-sport podcast in 2006.

A series of articles he wrote last year on concussions in football has recently earned him the distinction of Pulitzer Prize nominee.

The format of the event was an informal interview with Professor Louis Masur, the director of the American Studies program, asking all of the questions.

"This lecture brought something different to the campus that students are interested in but don't always have a chance to pursue," said Masur. "Since we don't offer journalism courses here, this was an opportunity to engage students interested in journalism in a different way."

A loose theme of the talk centered on the unique nature of the sport.

"Baseball is a sport in which there are very short chunks of time that mean a great deal, but anything can happen at any given time," said Schwarz. "Ever since the modern box score appeared in the 1860s, people involved in baseball have wanted a way to retell the game. This is inherent to baseball. To the audience, there are staccato flashes of time, and then play stops. There are ways of measuring the state of a game unlike hockey or basketball."

Schwarz focused on why a love for numbers is inherent in the sport.

"Baseball is a perfect double entry system," he said. "It all adds up in the end, but until the creation of the Baseball Encyclopedia, records were a rat's nest of mistakes. Now, we have to worry about who makes the

decisions based on changing rules." Proof of this sentiment has been evident recently with controversy over steroid use by professional players. "These things matter to people. The whole fuss about steroids lies in stats."

Schwarz was quick to mention that the recent obsession with statistics can border on the absurd when small sample sizes influence decisions made during games.

"Managers pay attention to who hits what against certain pitchers, but if a guy is 0-5 it's as significant as the hair on his chinny-chin-chin," he said. "If he's 0-30, that's a different story."

Shifting focus from historical derivations of record-keeping to modern rivalries, Masur, an avid Yankees fan from the Bronx, couldn't help but ask, "Have the Red Sox won two series thanks to Bill James?"

Schwarz, who had previously clarified that he holds no team affiliations, replied, "No, they won just to get on your nerves. Bill's significance is vastly overestimated. The Sox have had the second highest payroll and that don't hurt. Their player development programs have been reinvigorated (as a result). James is just one of the many folks offering his help as part of a team."

According to Schwarz, the importance of his colleagues' opinions in influencing widespread opinion is equally overrated.

"I would caution you to not take the press too seriously," he said. "Gloria Steinem once said that being a writer helped to keep her from believing everything she read. We always assign more significance to things that don't really matter."

Schwarz fell into journalism after joining his college newspaper. Although he had never taken a writing course, he enjoyed covering baseball.

His first job was at *The National*, a sports daily that started in New York in 1990. It folded five months after he joined the staff.

"I did important things like answer the phones and get food. It gave me a chance to meet a lot of people," he said. "When I graduated, I thought that I didn't want to wear a tie or get a master's degree, so I became a journalist. I have residual guilt over not becoming a teacher, but I consider my articles to be little lectures where people can learn something new."

Freshman Kate Murdock is a co-founder of Trinity's newly-founded online sports entertainment network, TSPN.

"Honestly, pursuing journalism never occurred to me until it fell on my lap [at Trinity through TSPN]. It was fun interviewing Mr. Schwarz because he was so encouraging knowing that I'm doing what he does. I thought he was a great speaker because of his enthusiasm. The lecture attracted a lot of attention because he seems so in his element," she said.

Schwarz had a lot to say about his chosen industry.

"People say that the newspaper business is dying," he said, "but an alternative perspective is that perhaps it's creating more different kinds of opportunities. I'm not a writer, I'm a content developer. I don't work for a newspaper; I work for a media company primarily concerned with entertainment [...] I chose journalism because I wanted to write things that people could pick up 20 years from now and be entertained. I wanted to give stories a heart-beat that would keep them alive the next day."

Schwarz offered some practical advice for aspiring journalists: "Give your editor what they ask for. Don't miss a deadline. Do what you're told," he recommended.

When asked for predictions on what we can expect in the heart of this budding baseball season, however, the numbers man declined to offer words of wisdom.

"What the hell do I know?" he said. "That's the fun of the game — seeing how everything plays out."

Women's Tennis Team Enjoys Solid Performance

HANNAH CHARRY
SPORTS EDITOR

The women's tennis team is off to a strong 6-3 start, blowing by four teams during their Spring Break training trip.

The Bantams defeated Franklin and Marshall, Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Grinnell, and Hamline consecutively in Orlando, Florida. Trinity is ranked eighth of 11 teams within the NESCAC. The team holds a 1-3 record within the league.

Head Coach Wendy Bartlett said that she is happy with the outcome of the season thus far, which has not been easy due to unfavorable spring rain and wind that has forced the team to delay valuable practice time.

"The weather was great during spring break, and it was good to get our feet wet in competition and confidence up," said Bartlett.

In response to a disappointing 5-4 loss to Wesleyan University on Thursday, Apr. 3, the women are looking to focus more on their doubles play.

Wesleyan junior Rachel

Ghorbani took Trinity junior Sarah Gould in the third set, 6-3, for the win.

Senior co-captain Brenna Driscoll won her number one singles match 6-3, 6-1 along with junior Amanda Tramont and sophomore Olivia Merns, numbers two and five, respectively.

"One of our definite strengths is that we have a solid blend of new and experienced players," said Bartlett. "The whole team is close and works hard."

Their match-up versus Smith College this past Sunday, Apr. 12, fared better. The Bantams took the home court advantage to win 8-1.

All six singles players won in straight sets. Driscoll denied her opponent, Smith freshman Diana Fiumefreddo, a sole point. Both Tramont and junior Sarah Gould allowed only two games in their respective matches.

With the loss, Smith fell to a 7-11 record.

The women will play Connecticut College away this Wednesday, Apr. 9, at 3:30 p.m. They will be away for the rest of the season.

Next Week:

Water Polo Faces Tough Competition

Men's Lacrosse Looks to Get Back on Track

Crew Teams Find Early-Season Success

Men's Tennis Works to Rebound After Tough Loss

TRIP-ODDS



Bryce Blum
(14-10)



Jay Acunzo
(13-11)



Mike Robinson
(12-12)



Hannah Charry
(11-13)



Stephanie Apstein
(10-14)



Guest:
Alyssa Rautenberg

MLB: Detroit at Boston

MLB: New York Yankees at Boston

NBA: Utah at Dallas

NBA: New Orleans at L.A. Lakers

NBA: Phoenix at Houston

NESCAC: Women's Tennis at Conn. College

Boston	Boston	Boston	Detroit	Boston	Boston
Boston	New York	New York	New York	Boston	Boston
Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas
L.A.	New Orleans	L.A.	New Orleans	L.A.	New Orleans
Houston	Phoenix	Phoenix	Houston	Phoenix	Houston
Trinity	Trinity	Trinity	Trinity	Conn. College	Trinity



Trinity Sports

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Inaugural Belden Lecture Draws Athletes, Aspiring Writers

HANNAH CHARRY
SPORTS EDITOR

On Monday, April 7 at 4 p.m. in the Rittenberg Lounge New York Times writer Alan Schwarz gave the inaugural Belden Lecture in Sports Journalism.

While focusing on the importance of statistics in baseball, Schwarz covered a range of topics including Gloria Steinem, the nation's

growing generational gap, and why he thinks Bill James is overrated.

This was the first in an annual series of lectures that will focus on the importance of sports in American Studies.

The lecture was established thanks to funding by Thomas G. Merrill, Class of 1983, in honor of his uncle Francis R. Belden, Class of 1930.

Trinity baseball players lined the front row, joined by sports enthusiasts and budding journalists alike.

Schwarz is a veritable expert on the topic of statistics, which he jump-started as a math major at the University of Pennsylvania. He joined the staff of the Times in March 2007 after eight years as a contributor to

see SCHWARZ on page 23



E.G. Caner

Sportswriter Alan Schwarz (right) speaks to Trinity students about his career.

Baseball Stays Perfect at 19-0 with Three-Game Sweep of Bates

STEPHANIE APSTEIN
SPORTS EDITOR

Pitching and defense win games, the adage goes. The Trinity College baseball team has proven it 19 times over this season as they have rolled to a 19-0 start, a program best. Despite their uncontested status as favorite in the NESCAC East Division, the team is league average in most hitting statistics. However, as junior second baseman Ryan Piacentini, this week's NESCAC Player of the Week, put it, "it's tough to lose games when the other team doesn't score."

Senior righthanders and perennial aces Tim Kiely and Chandler Barnard have long formed one of the strongest one-two punches in Division III baseball, but this year they have company. Classmate righthander Mike Regan has emerged as one of the team's most dependable pitchers, posting a 0.67 ERA and a 4-0 record in five appearances. Sophomore Jeremiah Bayer has impressed with his 9.0 K/IP.

"It's awesome to watch our pitchers make the other hitters look foolish," said sophomore first baseman Kent Graham. "If our pitching staff can stay healthy and be as good as they have been so far, we will continue to win a lot of games."

Kiely emphasized the role of the bullpen in the team's early-season success. "In Florida, we swung the bats real well in favorable hitting conditions, and that's the way we can expect to hit when it's nice out, but it's tough

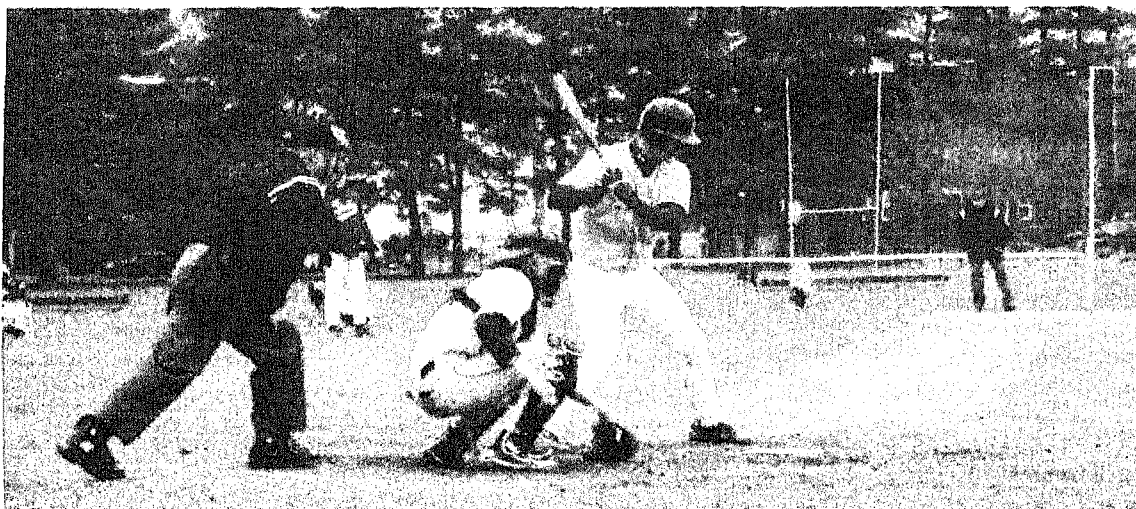
in New England, so our bullpen has been key to holding the other team down until our bats inevitably come alive," he said.

Pitching certainly ruled this past weekend as the Bantams plowed through the Bates College Bobcats to the tune of a three-game sweep. Trinity edged Bates by a score of 6-0 in Saturday's game behind Kiely's nine-inning complete-game shutout. He has yet to record a walk this season. Bates' Benjamin Schwartz stymied the Bantam bats for the first five innings, but a walk and a sacrifice bunt put a man in scoring position with two out for Piacentini.

"I was just trying to get a pitch I could hit. I was ahead in the count, he left a pitch up, and I put a good swing on it," he said of his clutch RBI double that put the Bantams ahead for good.

Sunday's doubleheaders were much less stressful for the Trinity faithful, as the Bantams put three runs on the board in the first inning of game one and two in the first inning of game two and never looked back, winning both by scores of 10-3. Barnard and Regan picked up the wins on the mound.

Trinity, ranked seventh in the nation, will aim to continue this unprecedented run with a game on Tuesday, Apr. 8 at 3 p.m. at home against the Western Connecticut State University Colonials. They resume NESCAC play this weekend with a three-game set against the Colby College White Mules in Waterville, Maine.



From top: Sophomore catcher Steve Bernstorff takes a ball just before his pinch-hit single loads the bases in game two on Sunday; sophomore first baseman Kent Graham fields the third out of the fourth inning of game one on Sunday; senior starting pitcher Chandler Barnard delivers a pitch in game one on Sunday.



All photos by E.G. Caner

No. 12-Ranked Women's Lacrosse Upsets No. 10 Bowdoin, 14-10

MIKE ROBINSON
SENIOR EDITOR

The spring looks to be a very successful one for Trinity athletics, and the women's lacrosse team's strong start is a big part of that.

Ranked nationally in several polls leading up to the season, the Bantams have justified their preseason buzz with a 5-3 (4-1 NESCAC) record following this past Saturday's win over 10th-ranked Bowdoin.

Head Coach Katherine Livesay in encouraged by her team's early play. "The season is going well [...] We had a tough start coming out of conference play and dropping early games, but we rebounded well," she said.

The Bantams won their two opening games of the year at home against Colby and Eastern Connecticut. They dropped two close contests while in Florida, but went 3-1 in league play once they returned to New England.

"I think we were trying to get

our starting line-up fixed in the beginning of the season. It took awhile to come together and get to know each other on the field," Livesay said of the team's early struggles.

What stands out about this Bantam squad is the contributions they are receiving from young players. The team's leading scorer is freshman Rachel Romanowsky, who leads the NESCAC in goals per game with 3.57. Sophomore Jennifer Calver, who recently won

NESCAC Player of the Week honors, is third in scoring. The list goes on. But the leadership of the team's upperclassman has been invaluable as well.

"We have a really talented first-year class. They've been welcomed by great senior leadership that has set the tone and have high expectations," Livesay added.

The four senior captains have all made big contributions on and off the field. C.J. Yanofsky is second on the team in scoring.

Defensemen Ellen Cohn and Caroline Boiardi have spearheaded a stingy Bantam defense, and goalkeeper Michelle Smith ranks third in the NESCAC in save percentage with a .527 mark. They have led the young and talented Trinity squad by example and attitude.

Next up for the Bantams is a trip to Springfield to face off against the Pride on Wednesday, Apr. 9, before a showdown with Middlebury at home on Saturday, Apr. 12, at 11 a.m.